Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXIV NO. 50 December 15, 1994

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

Belly Up to Disbar, Boys...

Gay Attorney Charged with 'Shocking' Offenses to PWA

A gay San Francisco attorney is the subject of a complaint that charges him with a conflict of interest in the matter of a living trust he established for a person with AIDS, to care for

the man's dependent lover - and then helped to break.

"I haven't seen the complaint. I'm not aware of it," said attorney Gerald Witherspoon.

The complaint against Witherspoon was filed with the California State Bar on December 13 by Billy Howard Jones,

late Mark Wilson, who died in October.

Jones has also sued the trustee in Superior Court for cause of action that includes fraud and fiduciary abuse of a dependent adult.

According to an attachment to the

(Continued on page 24)



Keep Hope Alive

Dignitaries and supporters cut the ribbon Dec. 10 to the Richard M. Cohen Residence of the Hope Housing Program. The residence is a 10-bed facility in one of the oldest (circa 1850) homes in San Francisco, which has been renovated to provide residential care for people with AIDS. Rents are subsidized by HUD and administered by Dolores Street Community Services.

Supes Outlaw Discrimination Against **Transgenders**

by Dennis Conkin

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously passed landmark legislation on Monday, December 12 that outlaws discrimination against transgendered people in San Francisco.

The law amends Article 33 of the Police Code by adding gender identity to the pro-tected classes in the Human Rights Ordinance. The measure will prevent dis-crimination in employment, public accom-modations, educational institutions, and housing, as well as in city contracts for ser-

vices.
"This is a proud day to be a San Franciscan," said Supervisor Terence Hallinan, who sponsored the measure. "We've made history here and shown that discrimination of any kind has no place in our society.'

our society."

The legislation follows extensive testimony by transgendered people and human services providers at a May 1994 hearing, arranged by the Human Rights Commission's Transgender Task Force, and a hearing last week before the board's Government Efficiency and Labor Committee.

According to HRC Discrimination Representative Cynthia Goldstein, the "great piece of legislation" bans discrimination against transgenders throughout city government and in the private sector, and will also facilitate education about the needs and rights of a much-maligned minority group.

The ordinance allows the HRC to investigate, mediate, and issue findings about dis-

gate, mediate, and issue findings about dis-crimination against sexual, racial and other minorities in San Francisco. ▼

D.A. Reverses Objections to Greene's Compassionate Release



Cynthia-Ann Greene

It appears likely that Cynthia-Ann Greene will be able to spend this Christmas at home with her family before she dies of AIDS. Orders from San Francisco District Attorney Arlo Smith are pending, to reverse any lingering objections by his staff to the dying former armed robber's compassionate release from Chowchilla pri-

ACT UP San Francisco has supported Greene's fam-

ily's request to let her spend her final days at home with them in Hunter's Point. Although she was originally incarcerated on armed rob-bery charges, Greene is now in the hospital, and family members and ACT UP supporters say she is completely weakened and defense-less and poses no threat to the community

California Department of Corrections Director James Gomez signed a long-awaited compassionate release ed compassionate release recommendation on her behalf last Friday, December 9, but final approval depended on a December 13 ruling by Superior Court Judge Ina Levin Gyemant.

(Continued on page 25)

Joycelyn Elders Fired Over **Masturbation Statements**

Bill Clinton fired his surgeon general, Joycelyn Elders, on December ostensibly for speaking positively of masturbation as a component of sex education in schools.

"Dr. Elders's public statements reflecting differences with administration policy and my own convic-tions have made it necessary for her to tender her resignation," read the

official statement of the president. Elders had drawn much criticism from social conservatives: firing her did little to placate them.

(Continued on page 24)

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Sunset Pines Apartments, scene of the brutal murder in Concord



Photo: Mary Ann Swissle

Concord Murder Shocks Bay Area

The brutal strangulation of a Concord woman, described as a devout Catholic Filipino who loved dogs and romantic waterfront walks with her Navy officer husband, took a bizarre turn this week with the revelation that victim Terrie Tolentino - who went by the name Terrie Ladwig

Concord police also announced that they have interviewed more than a dozen of Ladwig's sex partners and acquaintances in an attempt to find

Tolentino, born Larry Earl Johnson, was found in the bedroom of the couple's Concord home by her husband, Naval Petty Officer Steven Ladwig, December 2.

Police refused to discuss details of the homi-

Ladwig returned home to the Sunset Pines Apartments on Adelaide Street, on leave from assignment with the Navy Submarine Corps in Bangor, Washington, where he is permanently sta-

According to Concord police spokesman Officer Joe Kreins, the Naval officer is not a suspect in his wife's homicide.

"Petty Officer Ladwig has suffered a serious loss. The Navy respects that, and has attempted to help him get through that loss at this point. We have not begun an investigation at this time. We are attempting to help him get through this

tragedy," a Navy spokeswoman said

However, according to Commander Barbara Burns of Submarine Group 5, when Ladwig returns to duty after his emergency leave, the Navy will commence investigating whether he violated Department of Defense regulations pro-

hibiting same-sex marriages or relationships.

Ladwig is not saying he is gay, according to
partner was a pre-op transsexual and that the
partner was a pre-op transsexual and that the couple "did not really have a sexual relationship," but

were basically companions.

The couple was married in Reno last summer, and Tolentino reportedly planned to relocate near-er the Washington base where her partner was sta-

The murder victim worked as a certified nurse's aide in Contra Costa hospitals and was last

seen alive on December 1, according to police.

Tolentino was "extremely popular," police say, but had recently told her partner that she was worried because of "some problems with some peo-ple." Police said the victim had complained to her partner shortly before she was found dead that meone had tried to break down the apartment

According to news reports, the victim had planned to undergo sexual reassignment surgery eventually. ▼

Kent Brandley and Mary Ann Swissler con-

Pelosi, Boxer Fight To Save Gay Man from Salvador Death Squads

by Dennis Conkin

An El Salvadoran AIDS outreach worker who was threat-ened by a death squad for distributing condoms and provid-ing other AIDS outreach has gone into hiding as he waits to see if he can escape to the United States.

Wilfredo Valencia-Palacios, a

co-director of the Oscar Romero AIDS Project, was threatened twice in November, according to San Franciscan Matt Wettlaufer,

the director of the group.
Wettlaufer told the Bay Area
Reporter that Valencia-Palacios was conducting outreach with male prostitutes in the Public Market area of the capital city of San Salvador when he was followed for several minutes by black Nissan with tinted windows. Three men leapt from the car, grabbed him by the neck, and demanded to know what he

was doing in the area.

"They said that they were going to clean up the city, and if AIDS didn't kill the faggots, they would," Wettlaufer said.

The attackers pulled a gun



Wilfredo Valencia-Palacios

on Valencia-Palacios, but he managed to struggle free. Two of the assailants later confront-ed him two blocks from his home and told him he had a month to stop his work and get out of the country or be killed.

After Mexico denied his request for a visa and the U.S. Embassy said there was nothing it could do on Valencia-Palacios's behalf, Wettlaufer and other activists enlisted the assistance of Senator Barbara Boxer and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi. The lawmakers are now trying to get the activist a tourist visa to the United States.

"Both have written letters to the U.S. Embassy. We are awaiting a reply," Wettlaufer

The Oscar Romero AIDS Project has been working in El Salvador since April 1993. The group's primary work is with communities that have the least access to AIDS information and include impoverished shantytown residents, prostitutes, transvestites, and others.

An estimated 700 people have been diagnosed with AIDS in the Central American coun-

Letters of protest can be faxed to El Salvador's President Calderon Sol, at 011-503-271-0950. For more information contact Wettlaufer and the Oscar Romero AIDS Project, at (415) 241-0398.

Sebring Recants Gabbert Allegations

Carefully Worded Statement Springs Suspect from Jail

by Dennis Conkin

Stalking suspect Sean Sebring made a surprise plea of guilty on Friday, December 9 to a single misdemeanor count of making a threatening phone call to multimillionaire media

to multimillionaire media mogul James Gabbert.
Sebring, 25, was sentenced to time served and three years' probation in the negotiated disposition. Felony extortion charges were dropped by the District Attorney's office.
Sebring was arrested on October 5 by San Francisco authorities and held on \$1 million bail for threatening to kill and attempting to extort \$10 million from Gabbert.
Sebring was arrested shortly

Sebring was arrested shortly after psychologist Davis Mannino notified authorities that the 25-year-old former Marine had threatened to kill Gabbert in his presence, while the young man was being held in a psychiatric facility by men-tal health authorities. Sebring had earlier attempt-

Sebring had earlier attempted to purchase a handgun in violation of a restraining order sought by Gabbert.

Sebring had initially pleaded not guilty to the charges and alleged that while he was aboard Gabbert's Sausalitobased yacht *Defiance* last August 15, Gabbert gave him a bottle of beer laced with the psychedelic drug Ecstasy and then sexually assaulted him.

Sebring claimed that while he in was in a drugged and unresisting state Gabbert unzipped his pants, pulled out his penis, and

pants, pulled out his penis, and attempted to orally copulate him. Sebring told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he pushed Gabbert away and then ran from the yacht, and that he never threatened Gabbert except with legal

Sebring admitted himself to a psychiatric hospital shortly after the incident, still claiming that Gabbert had drugged and raped him.

raped him.

However, in a very carefully worded statement read into the court record at the time of his plea of guilty, Sebring said he was sorry that the incident ever occurred and that he wanted to end the matter.

In his statement, Sebring retracted claims that he was raped by Gabbert.
"I have stated that I was raped. I was not. I have stated

that I was drugged by him. I have no proof that I was. I have no plans to contact James Gabbert again, either directly or indirectly," Sebring said in the

A court-appointed psychia-trist ruled that Sebring posed no danger in his present mental state to Gabbert or others. "Both Mr. Gabbert and my client have said and done things

that they have regretted. My client has pleaded guilty to makclient has pleaded guilty to making a threatening phone call. I think that this is a satisfactory resolution for both Mr. Gabbert and Mr. Sebring," said John Runfolo, Sebring's attorney.

"The incident is fair to all parties involved," said Assistant District Attorney Chuck Haines.

"Mr. Sebring is going to be supervised through the adult probation office, and if he violates any bation office, and it he violates any conditions of that probation he will be back in jail," Haines said.

Gabbert told the Bay Area Reporter that the incident closes

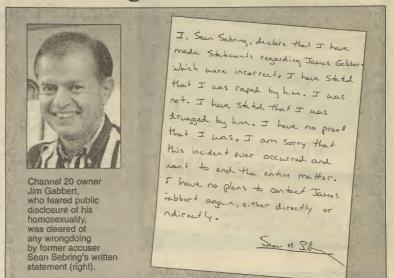
a tumultuous chapter in his life.
"I'm satisfied. I just hope that
he can get on with his life and
that he abides by the conditions
of his probation and receives psychiatric counseling," Gabbert said about Sebring.
Gabbert initially claimed to

reporters that he met Sebring at a KOFY television audition for extras, and denied that he ever invited Sebring aboard his yacht. Gabbert later admitted those

Gabbert later admitted those statements were untrue and that he had met the young man at a Guerneville gay bar, had socialized with him several times, and had taken Sebring and a friend on a trip to Oregon in his private plane.

Gabbert said that he lied to proporter because he was afraid.

reporters because he was afraid the public would discover that he is a homosexual. ▼



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COMMUNITY NEWS

A.C. AIDS Office Top-Heavy, Says Planning Council Member

Claims 20 Percent Goes To Overhead. Administration

by Mary Ann Swissler East Bay Correspondent

Rvan White I funds that should be providing patient services in Alameda County are vices in Alameda County are instead paying for high administration costs of the program managed by the County Office of AIDS Services, according to planning council member Joseph DiMilia.

DiMilia, a healthcare educator with Kaiser Permanente, told the Ban Alameter with the Air County of the Cou

tor with Kaiser Permanente, fold the Bay Area Reporter that hun-dreds of people with HIV and AIDS are being cheated out of Ryan White funds, while nearly 20 percent of the total \$440 mil-20 percent of the total \$440 mil-lion federal grant is being squandered on administrative and management costs. A spending cap of ten percent belongs on administrative fees billed to the Ryan White program, an amount set by other cities with a comparably sized AIDS caseload, he said. DiMilia served last year as

the vice-chair of the Ryan White I planning council, an advisory board in existence since 1990. It located in existee since 1990. It includes 13 members from Alameda County, two from Berkeley, and the balance from Contra Costa County.

"We have done comprehen-

sive needs assessments for each of the services, and for every service there are hundreds and hundreds of people not being served," DiMilia told the B.A.R. "The need is great." There are 26 specific categories in the Ryan White I program, all going to help people from the time they get tested to the time they may pass away: medical care, emergency assistance, housing, home care, hospice, and nutri-

San Francisco spends seven percent on administration and management services, which management services, which DiMilia admitted is not an even match since the city receives a substantially higher Ryan White I chunk of federal dollars. But Alameda County's spending is still excessive when compared to the city of Baltimore, whose AIDS private reselected is shout. AIDS patient caseload is about the same. Baltimore puts a spending cap of ten percent on administration and management of the Ryan White I program, said DiMilia.

DiMilia said he understands that Alameda County's budget

shortfalls affect the AIDS office's situation. "I think they're doing it because they office's situation. "I think they're doing it because they don't get enough of a staffing budget from the county to do the kinds of things they need to do," he said. "Unfortunately, what has been earmarked for emergency funds for people living with AIDS is being used to beef up their bureaucracy. The money we allocate for adminis-tration is money we are not able

to put into direct services."

DiMilia realizes that he is definitely in the minority among planning council members, who back the County Office of AIDS Services. "They just side with the AIDS Office and believe that they need this money in order to adequately run the programs,"

This may be the case, he said, but it conflicts with the intent of Ryan White. He and others in the minority on the planning council have approached the grant program's governing body. grant program's governing body in Washington, D.C., the Human Resource Services Administra-tion. But their concerns have so far been greeted with a reminder that the grant is run with a hands-off approach from

Washington officials.

DiMilia said the topic is expected to come up again at this week's meeting of the planning council in Oakland.

Read Someone Famous In Front of Some Friends



Chad LeJeune



Cameron Chandler

Have you read anything good lately? If you have, and you either live in Napa Valley or frequently visit there, you might be interested in a new gay discussion group for people who like to read.

Cameron Chandler is a name that sounds as it should belong to a nov-

elist of the hard-boiled variety. But in actuality, Cameron Chandler is a dedicated reader of some 25 or 30 books a year who is spearheading the

dedicated reader of some 25 or 30 books a year who is spearheading the new discussion group's formation.

Chandler lives in Napa and works in Sonoma, and calls himself "the de facto dictator" of the loosely organized Napa Valley Men's Network, which publishes the monthly newsletter JUICE From Our Bunch.

The NVMN, a social organization of gay and bisexual men over 18, has been in existence for three years and now has roughly 130 active members. The majority live in Napa County, but about 30 live in Sonoma County, 12 live in San Francisco, and about half a dozen live around Sacramento.

The network meets for potluck dinners on the second Sunday of every

month and for additional events as scheduled.

In the December issue of JUICE, Chandler announced that he and Chad LeJeune of the network are now "forming a group of guys to read some books together as a regular discussion group."

They're making plans for a January start.

"Generations ago, such a group was called a salon, and they were quite fashionable in the Paris of George Sand's day. Of course, calling it a salon

fashionable in the Paris of George Sand's day. Of course, calling it a salon presumes we will have something meatier to discuss than the *National Enquirer* cover story," Chandler wrote.

"We promise to serve tea and petit fours. We will even be sure to compliment you on your new millinery. It will be just like Monday Night Football, except the conversations will have some substance."

In a subsequent interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Chandler, 47, joked that the group might be "versatile enough to allow for reading in bed."

The Napa Valley Men's Network tends to appeal mostly to men in the 30 to 60 age bracket. But it is a diverse age group, with some older and some younger than that. "Younger guys tend to gravitate to the city," said Chandler, who is 47, and "we're pretty well settled."

Chandler suggests the "single best idea for a book to curl up with this winter: A Cry to Heaven by Anne Rice. This book is not well known. It is a story of action and adventure set in Renaissance Florence. It involves the music world (opera queens take note). It also happens to have the the music world (opera queens take note). It also happens to have the heaviest overtone of homoeroticism of any of Ms. Rice's oeuvre. Available in paperback."

You can write to the Napa Valley Men's Network at P.O. Box 1742,

SF Top Cops Strip Castro Patrol Specials of Status

On November 30 the San Francisco Police Commission sharply curtailed the authority of San Francisco Patrol Special Police officers, the uniformed special officers who patrol the Castro and other beats in the city, by stripping them of their peace officer status. Two days later, a Superior Court judge stayed the order from taking effect until

from taking
January 1.
The 4-0 Police Commission ruling divests the patrol special members of the power special memoers of the power to arrest citizens for probable cause and eliminates city insurance for the officers, requiring them to post insurance bonds.

If the injunction against the commission is not made permanent, according to Castro area patrol special officer Al area patrol special officer Ai Stancombe, patrol special offi-cers working the Castro and elsewhere will no longer pro-

vide the private police services and will sue the city. "Without the ability to arrest and detain without war-rants and other Police Officer Standard Training guidelines such as the protection of life and property, we will be secu-rity guards, not cops," Stancombe said.

The commission did allow the officers to remain armed.

Stancombe told the Bay

rulings by the city attorney's office ratify the officers' peace officer status, and said that taking away the arrest powers and making other changes creates an adverse economic impact by making their services worthless to merchants, their

contract partners.

But SFPD Field Operations
Lieutenant Don Carlson told
the B.A.R. that although the
patrol specials will lose their
peace officer status under the
ravicious thay will still house revisions, they will still have the power to arrest people – as citizens instead of peace offi-

cers.
Carlson said that any citizen has the right to arrest someone for crimes committed in their presence, or as long as a witness or victim provides a description of what happened such that a reasonable person would believe, based on the evidence, that there is probable cause that a crime has been committed.

Patrol specials will lose their access to computerized state criminal identification and information, including data about outstanding war

rants of suspects, Carlson said. They will retain radio

access to SFPD communica tions, however, and will be able to communicate with police officers and to request patrol assistance, Carlson

until the Police Commission action stripped the officers of their status, the officers were considered law enforcement officers but were paid by merchants for services in approximately 65 beats throughout the city

Excessive force allegations probed

In other patrol special news, SFPD Management Control Lieutenant William Davenport confirmed that citizen com-plaints regarding an arrest of a robbery suspect by Stancombe in October are under active investigation.

Although Davenport de-clined to discuss the details of the investigation, complainants allege that Stancombe used unreasonable and unautho-rized force when he kicked the suspect in the torso and struck him twice in the face after the suspect was cornered following a chase.

Stancombe said witnesses did not see the entire incident and that he did not use unauthorized force against the suspect.

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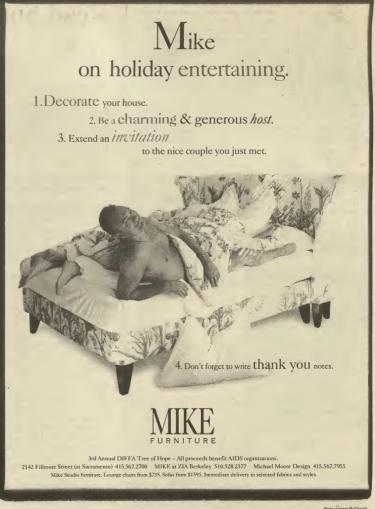
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Crime fighters: SF Patrol Special Police officers Jane Warner (left) and John Barry (right) cruise the Castro on foot Dec. 4. The two, who are in danger of losing their peace officer status, work at the behest of Castro District merchants because of rising crime in the area.



B.A.R.

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EDITORIAL

Let's Talk About Masturbation!

he departure of Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders signals more than "Clinton's new turn to the right," as the Examiner put it. Clinton's big thumbs-down to thumbs down there actually signals a flight from the truth into a dark closet where nobody can see the big bad monster of sex. And that, obviously, signals doom for this country's

AIDS education policies.

Now we know the rules: in this administration you can when the speaks of being a "new Democrat." It's the kind of Democrat who wants what the right wing wants: as Patricia Ireland of NOW described it, "see education of the speaks of being a "new Democrat." It's the kind of Democrat who wants what the right wing wants: as Patricia Ireland of NOW described it, "see education of the speaks of

as Patricia Ireland of NOW described it, "sex education without sex." In return, we would like to give to Clinton this Christmas exactly what he seems to want to give the rest of the country: a doctor who doesn't tell the truth. Obviously he wouldn't stand for such a doctor if it were his life and health at stake. Nor would that be good enough (one assumes) for his child. But honesty is apparently too rich a luxury for the rest of us; we're supposed to make do with less than the truth with less than the truth.

What's been ignored throughout the ruckus is that, yes, by all means, masturbation should be taught in school.

Despite the horror expressed by the anti-sex forces, it's clear that Elders didn't let any great secret slip. It isn't as though we've kept kids from masturbating by keeping it a secret. It might as well be spoken of, so they know it's

something everyone does - probably the reason the right wing wants it hushed up – and that it won't really make you go as blind as a parish priest. And now that we live in

you go as blind as a parish priest. And now that we live in the time of this epidemic there is another excellent reason to talk about the subject to the next generation: condoms.

Masturbating while wearing a condom is an excellent way for men and boys to get used to the way they feel, fit, and behave. We feel sick when we think that some of the kids who are whacking off now – yes, right now – will someday lose their lives because they didn't use condoms because they didn't like the feeling. That could be prevented, but not by pretending masturbation doesn't exist.

The suggestion of masturbating with condoms is also a good idea for older guys, too. It's good for you and fun, too. We think everyone who has a penis should try it until they love it. (David Byrne, formerly of Talking Heads, has said he thinks sex feels better with a condom. We intend to keep practicing until we find out how to do that.)

It was the San Francisco AIDS Foundation that made the above suggestion about condoms and masturbation, in a pamphlet it produced for young men last year. We have long derided SFAF for spending way too much money with too few results – and we mean it – but that advice is so terrific it justifies *some* of the gargantuan organization's

Now, if you'll excuse us, we have practicing to do. ▼

GUEST OPINION

Ashok **Row Kavi**

From Trikone

a magazine

for gay and

21354, San

Jose CA

by Mary

Ann Swissle

lesbian South Asians: P.O. Box

Homosexuality Is an Important Part of Religion

he Nabi, as the Prophet Mohammed is affectionately known, mentions homosexuality only once – and not as negatively as present Islamic theologians do.
This characteristic of modern Islam is

something Christian communities exhibited in their transitional periods in the 15th-17th centuries; Hindu society showed the same strain during Manu's epoch in the 2nd/3rd century C.E.

But homosexuality was and has But homosexuality was and has been a very important component of all religions. The temple of Sabarimalai in India still has the existing deity of Skanda/Ayappa, a son born of the homosexual union between Vishnu and Shiva (Hariharaputra). The existence of pre-Babylonian "Khadeshim" in the Great Temple of Jerusalem shows that there was male prostitution in Judaism.

Salman Rushdie was just too rude in pointing out the Holy Prostitution at the three temples at Mecca of Ollat, Ozza, and Mannat – representing the three holy virgins of the Moon-Goddess mentioned by Al-Kindy, historian of pre-Islamic Arabia.

It is only fanatics and fools who will turn away from this fantastic heritage of human civilization. It belongs to us all. The sorrow of mod ern industrial corporate culture is that it wishes to displace this rainbow-colored religious evolution of the extraordinary animal species now dominating the planet earth.

What should be stressed is that even if the Prophet were to strongly disapprove of homosexuality, homo-

phobia is wrong (like racism, religious fanaticism, casteism) because it is ethically wrong and not because a religious person thinks so.

We homosexuals will always remain everywhere. There may not be Muslims in Tasmania, but there definition were homosexuals existing definition of the processing the secretary of the control of the c

nitely are homosexuals existing down under. There may not be Hindus in Lapland, but there certainly will be gay Laps riding reindeer sleds.

gay Laps riding reindeer steds.

So don't be too upset about the rising tide of hatred against us. We will always rise again. Some lucky womb will give birth to another homosexual—male or female – and we'll grow up to show the right path to all mankind. ▼ show the right path to all mankind.

Ashok Row Kavi is the founder of e periodical Bombay Dost, an activist, and a journalist.

THIS WEEK IN GAY HISTORY

The Mayor of Shattuck Avenue

en years ago this week, Jeff Leiter was packing his bags for a one-week cruise down the California Coast with his lover and two other male couples. After that, he

and two other male couples. After that, he traveled northeast to his mother's home in Grass Valley for Christmas.

Things have certainly changed since then. This week, Leiter finishes his term as the first openly gay mayor in the Bay Area, and will be moving his things out of his office to set sail on new professional borizons. sional horizons.

When Leiter celebrated the holidays in 1984, the first person he knew who would die of AIDS was still alive, but in failing health. "They didn't even know he had AIDS. They were having trouble diagnosing it in 1984," recalls Leiter.

A fellow cruise passenger was Dr. Larry Abramson, an early AIDS doctor who has since retired. The talk on the

who has since retired. The talk on the cruise was a lot like it was on land, Leiter says: safe sex was openly discussed but testing wasn't something everyone was willing to do. "People were beginning to be concerned, but very few people I think had been tested, and a lot of people were afraid to be tested." Three out of the six holiday cruise revelers have since contracted HIV, says Leiter.

By 1984 Leiter had been donating his time and money to

a number of causes for about five years, and had already come out of the closet as a 21-year-old University of Oregon student, when he attended his first fundrais-

er for a gay political organization, the East Bay Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club. He

eventually became the club's president.

Leiter says he has never envisioned himself as an elected official – then or numsert as an elected official – then or now, even after he was appointed to the post by outgoing mayor Lonnie Hancock in 1993. Once he has retired from the public spotlight this week Leiter says he will be content to raise funds and volunwill be content to raise runds and volun-teer for a number of non-profits, just as he did a decade ago, and to run the family business. Now that his term is over he will return to working behind the scenes to advance the rights of gay and lesbian peo-ple, and in various anti-poverty programs. One of these is the Berkeley Community Fund, which he founded.

Other Political Strides

This week six years ago in 1988, lesbian Judy Abdo was finishing her first month on the job as a Santa Monica, California city councilwoman.

This week in 1983, Lee Hudson was appointed as liai-

son to the mayor of New York. ▼

Your comments and suggestions about "This Week in Gay and Lesbian History" should be sent to The Bay Area Reporter, attn: Mary Ann Swissler, 395 Ninth St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

Inflammatory Stickers

Recently, while walking in the Castro, where I both live and work, I happened across stickers attacking the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. When I looked closely at these inflammatory notes, plastered on windows, stores and mailboxes, I noticed that no group claimed responsibility for these "alerts."

Having just spent the previous two weeks dealing with the anticipated 104th Congress, and after ing with the anticipated 104th Congress, and after hearing Representative Newt Gingrich equate homosexuality with alcoholism and then attempt-ing to keep the Ryan White CARE Act from being "dismantled" by the GOP in the House of Representatives, my first reaction to these stickers was that the fundamental and conservative ele-ments of the 104th Congress had made a field trip to San Francisco to continue their attacks on our to San Francisco to continue their attacks on our community, only now they were doing so in our

community.

In light of these stickers, I feel compelled to write and question not only the motivation of the cowards who posted these notices across the Castro, but also their ultimate objective. As a gay man who is living with HIV, and as an individual who supports the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, I am outraged by the content and intent of these stickers. Their blind and malevolent rhetoric is shameful and their messages are equally appalling. shameful and their messages are equally appalling. How dare they equate HIV negative agency staff with "goons.

Not only are these stickers cheap shots, but the individuals who put them up lack the spine to claim responsibility for their actions. These are not the actions of individuals or a group who seek to constructively deal with an HIV/AIDS service organization, these are the actions of spoiled chil-

I, for one, can not imagine how these notes have affected the morale of the staff and volunteers and Board of the AIDS Foundation. One can only hope that the staff and volunteers and Board understand that there are many like myself who not only value the work of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, but who also do not believe the lies contained in these stickers.

> Mike Shriver Executive Director Mobilization Against AIDS San Francisco

State of the Castro

The following two letters were sent to B.A.R. political editor/columnist Wayne Friday: 1

Thank you for your interest in the Castro. I share the same feelings as you do. Let's get the Supervisors involved, otherwise Castro will

Also, why don't we have the Supervisors and the Chief of Police work on keeping the children and teenagers out of the Castro on Halloween?

Walter Leiss San Francisco

We agree it's a disaster! Example: walk by 2775 Market's open carports and see food, rubbish and feces strewn about. Police have been called many times and have been cooperative. But what can we do?

I know several people who, along with myself, would join your effort at a neighborhood discus-

Herman Moss San Francisco

Spanish Geography Lesson

[The following letter was addressed to Aiva Nidnacs and Polly Popular, Out There columnists.]

Girffriends:

Love your column, really.

However, in your last one, you called Pedro Almodovar an "icon of catalan camp," which just ain't the case. "Catalan" refers to the language and culture of Catalunya, the northeast part of Spain, of which Barcelona is the capital. Pedro, the dear, lives in, and has made all his movies in Madrid. He cauled be called a Madrile (company). could be called a Madrileño (someone from Madrid) or maybe even a castillano (someone from Castilla, the area around Madrid). But a catalan he is not, never was or will be, for better or worse Que lastima, and so on.

Please flagellate yourselves, eat a paella, or get a map of Spain, whichever would be most painful and fun.

George ("Charo") Untermeyer

"Uncut" Censored

This letter is in response to the Lesbian Avengers' recent success in getting John Wayne Bobbit Uncut banned from the Roxie. Being a person who believes in freedom of choice, I find their protest idiotic and comparable to something Jesse Helms would do. Whatever happened to the idea that if you doe!

Helms would do. Whatever happened to the idea that if you don't want to watch something, don't watch it? Nobody was gonna make these women or anyone else sit through the movie. The people who wanted to see it were there as voluntary, consensual adults who wanted to see a movie.

What right do the Lesbian Avengers have to keep people from seeing a movie? Isn't this America? Don't we have choices? Can't you decide by yourself what you want and don't want to see? Maybe the Lesbian Avengers could start censoring T.V., books, radios and everything else for us, seeing that they think everyone is too stupid to make up their own minds. Maybe they could burn questionable books for us, to protect us.

burn questionable books for us, to protect us.

Thanks, but no thanks. I think I speak for a lot of people when I say that we don't want the Lesbian Avengers or anyone else censoring our lives! Thanks, anyway. I don't care if you're gay or straight or whatever, everyone should be upset at this obvious case of censorship! Do we really want other people (the Lesbian Avengers) making our decisions for us?

Scott Broadhurst San Francisco

Go on, Myth Thing

Even though it is tempting to feel completely hopeless in the wake of the recent G.O.P. sweep of the nation, it is important to remember that there are still people around who dedicate their lives to

positive revolution and progressive social change.

An excellent example for anyone who has ever loved men is the best-seller *The Myth of Male* loved men is the best-seller *The Myth of Male Power* by Warren Farrell, just out in paperback. A pioneer in gender issues since his years on the Board of the National Organization of Women in N.Y.C., Dr. Farrell has spent the last decade adding an understanding of the oppression of men to his understanding of the oppression of women. His latest book completely blows the illusions and misinformation about men that have reduced gender dialogue in this country to an intractable conflict between feminist half-truths and conservative prejudice.

For decades lesbians have both seen the critical links between their condition as lesbians and the condition of all women and had the benefit of a powerful national movement to buttress their agendas. It is time that gay men came to benefit from a complete understanding of our lives as men and from the insight and compassion of a national men's rights movement - one that needs our input

Some of the extensively documented examples of feminist exaggeration and dishonesty in *The Myth of Male Power* will shock those in our community who have grown comfortable with the neatly laid out feminist world view. But even if the national dialogue on how seriously women are victimized is exaggerated one tiny bit, the damage this would cause by diverting attention away from the holocausts with the highest body counts – AIDS among gay men, violence and drugs among black men, deaths among homeless men, heart disease, suicide, cancer, murder and work-related fatalities among all men – would warrant a total re-

examination of gender politics in America.

Everyone I know who has read *The Myth of Male Power* has had their understanding of men and women transformed. Individual changes like this are very encouraging when society as a whole is still being duped into accepting the unworkable solutions of the past.

> John Morrison San Francisco

[The editor responds: You lost us with that bit about deaths from homelessness, murder, and work-related fatalities "among all men." The other 51 percent of the population doesn't count?]

Operatic Temperament

Critic Paul Thomason does not know temperament. Does he expect every Lucia to "chew the scenery?" Ruth Ann Swenson, with her voice and tage presence, does not need to rant and rave orry if you need the extra "temperament" to fulfill your opera experience.

> **Jay Dabbs** San Francisco (Continued on page 8)



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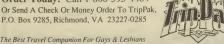
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PAGE 8-BAY AREA REPORTER-December 8, 1994

LETTERS

(Continued from page 7)

Time To Fight Back

Our community and indeed our nation is facing an Age of Darkness if the Republican Reign of Terror is unleashed. We are already aware of much of their agenda including: denying federal funds to school districts which "promote" homosexuality (by discussing it at all), reduced funding for AIDS patient care and AIDS research, increasing the discharging of lesbians and gay men from the Armed Forces, and many other things which we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

imagine in our worst nightmares.

We do not have to sit back and watch it all happen as the Germans did with Adolf Hitler. I propose the following actions, which we must begin to

take immediately:

 We must stand united as a community, focus-ing on what we have in common and down playing our differences.

our differences.

2. We must fight the attacks on all minority communities. United with women, people of color, the physically challenged, Hispanics and Native Americans, we are a much more powerful force.

3. We must generate thousands of letters to elected officials in support of our causes. The National Rifle Association is an example of how

letters can be used for political advantage. Their small membership generates enough letters to impact Congressional votes.

4. We must make our dollars work for us and not against us. We need to support gay/lesbian and minority businesses and avoid buying products from large corporations that donate money to the

Republicans.

5. We need to give money to the Human Rights
Campaign Fund, the National Gay & Lesbian Task
Force, People for the American Way, and the
Democratic Party as well as all of our community
organizations. We will need to increase our
fundraising efforts for our help organizations such
as: Lyon & Martin Women's Health Services and
AIDS Emergency Fund, because it will become more and more imperative that we take care of our

own.

6. In the 1996 election each of us who voted must get 20 new voters to the polls. We must turn out new voters all throughout the Bay Area and Los Angeles County so we can give California's 52 electoral votes to Clinton and prevent the election of Phil Gramm, Dan Quayle, or Robert Dole. We must begin to deal with the members of our community that do not care enough about our well-being to vote

munity that do not care enough about our well-being to vote.

We must begin to take action now! We cannot sit back and wait and see what happens. Once the dominoes begin to fall they will go quickly! We have already been too complacent, taking too much for granted. The price for freedom is eternal vigilance, and that is what is required now. Our very freedom is at stake!

Greg L. Pennington Mr. Watering Hole Leather San Francisco

A Candidate's Thanks

I want to express my thanks to the voters who supported my candidacy for State Treasurer in the November 8th election.

As a businessman who had never held elective office, I feel privileged to have had the opportuni-ty to engage in a debate about our state's future and to have been the nominee of the Democratic Party.

I look forward to continuing to make a contribution to our state's future.

Phil Angelides Democratic Nominee, California State Treasurer Sacramento

Not Heteros' Fault

With regards to Thomas Outt's letter in the issue of November 24. I take issue with his conclusions. Misguided people come in all races, religions, creeds, national origins and sexual preferences.

As a Quaker and a human being I am opposed As a Quaker and a human being I am opposed to violence. I am also a full-time AIDS volunteer. I have been beaten up, robbed, spat upon by drugaddicted homosexuals who wanted money. Do I condemn homosexuals? Of course not. What happened in the Content of the con pened in the Castro was a violation of law and individuals' rights, but not the fault of all heterosexuals. Most of them are pretty good, as is the case with all mankind.

Rodnev H. Clurman

CUAV Appreciated

[The following letter was sent to CUAV.]

As organizer of the 16th Annual Harvey Milk/George Moscone Candlelight March, I want to express my deep appreciation for the safety monitors Community United Against Violence

(CUAV) provided at the event.

It is important that our community demonstrate its ability to take care of our own at events like the its ability to take care of our own at events like the Candlelight March, instead of having large numbers of motorcycle police officers parading along at our side. The CUAV safety monitors provided for the March were visible, professional and effective at creating a safe environment for our community to remember Milk and Moscone.

Thank you for your hard work.

Ken Bukowski President, Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club San Francisco

Ugly Americans

I agree with the large number of people who have expressed the desire to move the Halloween celebration out of the Castro. I've lived in San Francisco since 1986 and every year it's uglier and uglier. While we are on the subject of ugly, I don't know what's uglier, the hetero gawkers' behavior or a straight man's poor pitiful attempt at drag.

> Ronny Marshall San Francisco

History of Halloween

Hallowen celebrations on Castro originated in 1946. My grandfather, Ernie ("Cliff") DeBaca, started producing a children's costume contest on the sidewalk in front of 515 Castro (one of Cliff's Variety's earlier locations, now part of "Hibernia Beach"). Over the years this little event grew into an institution that involved the participation of several district merchants. It also included entertainment and a pie or ice cream eating contest. For decades this Halloween party was specifically for children, and for that reason it started at 7 pm and it was over by 10 pm.

In the late '60s a number of the old neighborhood bars were bought by gays and Halloween on Castro took on a new dimension. Drag queens would charter limousines and tour buses to take

Castro took on a new dimension. Drag queens would charter limousines and tour buses to take them from gay bar to gay bar. There was a logistical problem because Castro Street was closed to traffic until 10 p.m. The simple solution was for the Castro bars to be at the end of the circuit. The children's party was over by then, and the bar owners didn't mind being last since that meant that

their patrons were free to linger.

As the years passed, the neighborhood and the Halloween celebration became more integrated. The Angels of Light produced some G-rated shows for the children, and they were very well-received. This was the spirit of Halloween in the Castro, and no invitations were required.

1979 saw the end of that spirit. As you correct-

1979 saw the end of that spirit. As you correctly observed, Polk Street was denied a permit to close the street. Polk Street had a history of violence and vandalism on Halloween, and the city was fed up with having their squad cars overturned. The media speculated loud and long that he problems of Polk Street would now be visited on the Castro. TV, radio, and the press are invaluable if you are in the business of making self-fulfilling prophesies. Instead of the usual thousand or so people, Halloween '79 saw tens of thousands on Castro Street, many of them there for the express purpose of kicking ass. Pockets were picked, people were mugged, windows were broken.

My grandfather realized in the last year of his life that the tradition he had started would die

before him.

For years after that, Halloween was a huge mess. I have tremendous admiration for CUAV and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and for all of the volunteers who are trying to restore a degree of civilization to this event. The Sisters have also revived the children's program, however nowadays it must be held in the daytime in a location away from Castro Street. This is the spirit of community in the Castro. I share your opinion of the punks, however your unvarnished bigotry toward "breeders" in general is just as odious as homophobia.

The De Baca Corporation San Francisco

Willie Hangs On

long with the Republican sweep last month in California (except here in S.F.) and other places we couldn't care less about came a sea change in the state Assembly. With 41 of the state's 80 assemblymembers in the hands of the Republican Party, Democratic Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, after 14 years

Commentary

calling the shots in Sacramento, was definitely out. Right?

out. Right?

Well, maybe not. Willie
"Don't Count Me Out" Brown
had some fast thinking to do
after the November 8 election.
Was he about to give up the
speaker's job and all its political power and influence without a fight? Even the
Republicans knew the answer
to that one.

In typical Willie Brown fashion, the embattled speaker convinced one of those 41 Republicans, Paul Horcher, to suddenly change parties and become an Independent, thereby denying the GOP a decisive vote they had counted as theirs. Horcher voted with the Democrats, and the Assembly split, 40-40.

With both parties now scheming to control the Assembly, the speaker issue will remain undecided until January 4, when that august body reconvenes. Can Willie Brown once again pull a rabbit from a hat? Will he agree to a "co-speakership" with the Parphilicans?

"co-speakership" with the Republicans?
Whatever happens, one thing is undeniable: Willie Brown, like him or not, has done a hell of a lot for San Francisco and Northern California during his lengthy tenure. And his plans for the January 4 showdown? Well, I spoke briefly with Brown at a Glide dinner last week and asked him if, as so many are saying, this is indeed the end for "Speaker" Willie Brown. He looked me in the eye, winked, smiled, and said nothing. However, his smile led me to believe that he was trying to tell me, in his own way, that he has a plan. "Keep watching, Wayne," he finally said, as he turned to shake someone's

(One local Democrat who knows Brown well keeps

telling me I can safely scoop everybody if I predict Brown will run for retiring Milton Marks' state Senate seat, announcing for that post before the end of *next* year.) There continues to be whis-

There continues to be whispering, snide remarks, and raised eyebrows in the gay/lesbian community here as the controversial Melinda Paras heads for Washington D.C. to take over as director of the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force. Overheard Sunday at a pre-Christmas party, a conversation between a well-known gay man and a prominent lesbian: "Damn! I guess this means Eric Rofes can't be far behind."

Sacramento friends of outgoing Insurance CommissionRepublicans in D.C. and Sacramento are snickering at how silly Mike "Tex" Huffington is beginning to look for *still* refusing to concede to Dianne Feinstein.

A rumormonger at City Hall is telling me that someone is putting pressure on Public Defender Jeff Brown to join the race for mayor next year, but according to my source, Brown feels that Frank Jordan will be a lot stronger than many people think.

Brown feels that Frank Jordan will be a lot stronger than many people think.

And, yes, I was a fan of outgoing Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders. I hope the gossip that President Clinton is asking former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop to return to the job is true.

A late note of congratula-



Willie Brown: Can he hold the post for long?

er John Garamendi tell me that he is negotiating with the White House for an appointment (Garamendi's wife, Patti, is already employed in D.C. as a Peace Corps deputy director) and he will eventually re-enter California politics.

Incidentally, thanks for all the reader mail supporting a recent column about the deterioration of Castro Street. FYI, we hope to call an open meeting for all merchants and interested residents right after the holidays, so keep in touch (through the B.A.R.). Not one negative letter so far!

negative letter so far!
And before I forget, Sharon
McNight, San Francisco's own
favorite singer/comedienne,
will be in concert Wednesday,
December 28, at the Great
American Music Hall (8850750).

Even some of the top

tions to Representative Lynn Woolsey of Marin/Sonoma's 6th District. She's a true friend of our community, and I'm damned happy she was reelected.

New York politicos are hinting in no uncertain terms that outgoing Governor Mario Cuomo will accept the job as baseball commissioner when it is offered next month. (Then, when President Clinton's next Supreme Court appointment opportunity arises – bingo – it's Justice Cuomo.)

Got a couple of bucks left

Got a couple of bucks left over after finishing your Christmas shopping? How about sending off a check (no matter the size) to the AIDS Emergency Fund, 1540 Market St., Ste. 304, SF CA 94102. You'll feel good about it, and they desperately need the help.





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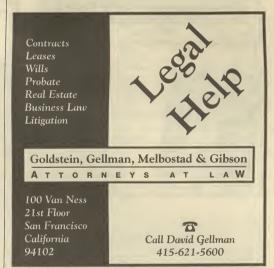
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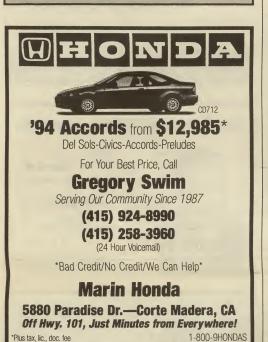
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Signs of the Times

t is a scary time to be read-ing George Orwell's novel 1984, but that's what I 1984, but that's what I happen to be doing these days, reading along with my high school students. An eerie echo of Newt Gingrich's pledging to put prayer back in school went dancing through my head as I read how the people of Oceania observe the Two Minutes Hate together each day in the novel. in the novel.

Facts never get in the way in the world of Newspeak. It's as easy to erase the past in Oceania as it is to eulogize away Richard Nixon's betrayal

of his nation.

Then, on the same day that
President Clinton removed Dr. Joycelyn Elders from her post as Surgeon General, I found as Suggeon Ceneral, 1 found myself reading Orwell's asser-tion that in the world of the Thought Police and Big Brother, "There was a direct, intimate connection between chastity and political ortho-

doxy."
One character has this to say
"average puritanism" about the "sexual puritanism" of Oceania's culture: "When you make love, you're using up energy; and afterward you feel happy and don't give a damn for anything. They can't bear you to feel like that. They want you bursting with energy all the time. All this marching up and down and cheering and waving down and cheering and waving flags is simply sex gone sour. If you are happy inside yourself, why should you get excited about Big Brother and the Three Year Plans and the Two Minutes Hate and all the rest of their bloody rot?"

Now there's a "they" that

Now there's a "they" that sounds familiar. On the heels of Operation Just Cause and Operation Restore Democracy, I'm waiting to hear President Clinton refer to the firing of Dr. Elders as Operation Personers. Elders as Operation Resume Chastity. If you build it into the language, they will come to believe it.

The powers that be want us to believe that the national fabric, or perhaps even national ric, or perhaps even national security, will be compromised by the notion that, as Elders said, masturbation "is part of human sexuality, and it's a part of something that perhaps should be taught."

A most ironic account of the same as a page.

events, offered up as a news story in a local daily reported that Elders' comments "came as an acute embarrassment to an administration which is already

in disarray."
Hello? Anyone in there? Her remarks an embarrassment? Hello? Does anyone think that perhaps the administration is the embarrassment?

Chewy, chewy doublespeak Oh yes, Doublethink is here

to stay. It may not be so difficult to convince the people that

something is its opposite.

Let's make a movie about sexual harassment. And, since women are most likely to be targets of men's harassment, let's be sure to highlight the opposite. Besides, a feature film about Tailhook would be

such a bore.
I stumbled across Howard Stern on my car radio Monday morning. A caller was in the middle of recounting her one lesbian experience. Apparently Stern had solicited such stories, upon her own heterosexuality, was offering up the details of an encounter she experienced over four years ago. The details she recalled failed to meet Stern's expectations, so he grew impatient with the woman, suggesting that he hoped she had two vaginas so that men could find something redeeming in her. He

something redeeming in her. He dismissed her story because, as he put it to her, "You're not turning me on," telling the caller: "You don't get it."

On Tuesday, the same caller had arrived in the studio so Stern could judge her attractiveness. He asked, "Did you ever have full lesbianism?"

"Yes," she asserted, "with another full heterosexual girl."

another full heterosexual girl.'

Commentary

Oh. Okay. Now I get it.
Fortunately, there have been some quiet signs of rebellion popping up in my life. One of my cats threw up on "This Pope and the Next," the cover story of the most recent *The New York Times Magazine*.

Like Winston, the protago-

nist who keeps his eyes peeled for any indicators that others share his discontent with the ruling Party in 1984, I find myself always on the lookout

myself always on the lookout for others who think like I do, who share my "Thoughtcrimes." Some such individuals are bold and coura-geous in their challenge to the absurdity of 1994, as Dr. Elders has proven to be, while others are simple and whimsical in their subversiveness.

Take, for example, the street

activist/artist who has been tampering with Tanqueray's Mr. Jenkins

Mr. Jenkins is the white-haired "gentleman" featured in a \$27 million campaign, reporta \$27 million campaign, reportedly the biggest in liquor advertising history, to attract younger drinkers to the English gin while maintaining its established upscale, older market.

Jenkins proves that he and his country-clubbish, statusquo values fit right in with a young, hip crowds — a bit of doublethink in its own right. I

must admit that I have disliked the advertisements from the first day I saw one. So I was delighted to discover that someone had rearranged the letters of a Mr. Jenkins poster in the Castro so artfully that even the neighborhood anti-graffiti-ites have overlooked this act of street art for a number of

weeks.
What an unexpected treat –
or, as the ad boasts, "How
refreshingly distinctive" – it
was to discover evidence of a
rebel in my own backyard. The
sign that once claimed "Mr. sign that once claimed "Mr. Jenkins sings the blues when too much vermouth ruins the taste of Tanqueray" now proclaims "Mr. Jenkins" mouth hungers for ass when he sips too much Tanqueray." Put that in your martini and stir it.

Leure would like to have that

I sure would like to buy that graphic-iti artist a drink.
So, in honor of the unknown

So, in honor of the unknown street artist, I will be supporting The Shooting Gallery, a benefit art sale and dance party for Visual Aid and The Harm Reduction Coalition. Not all artists and activists keep their work underground. Hundreds have donated work to The Shooting Gallery to be sold at the set price of \$75. Scores of other items will be raffled off during this extravaganza which lasts from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. on lasts from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. on Thursday, December 15 at Club 1015 Folsom. There's a \$10

admission fee.

Visual Aid provides direct visual Aid provides direct support to produce, present, and preserve the legacy of work cre-ated by artists living with AIDS and other life-threatening ill-nesses. The Harm Reduction Coalition is a San Francisco-based national organization committed to reducing drugcommittee to reducing drug-related harm by providing prac-tical information and support to drug users, their families, and their communities. Priority numbers for pur-

chasing works will be handed out beginning at 4 p.m., and pieces are sold on a first-come, pieces are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Perform-ances begin at 5 p.m., and the dance party begins at 10 p.m. I'm going to try to get there

early, just in case there's a work titled "Mr. Jenkins goes to Provincetown." Provincetown.



Urbane rim queen Mr. Jenkins demonstrates the perils of too much alcohol in this doctored ad for Tanqueray.

Catch the Wave!

ave Therapy Stress Reduction Center, a small lesbianowned company, is determined to bring a calming determined to bring a calming effect to our overstressed city, particularly in the heart of the financial district, where it is located at 22 Battery Street, Suite 202. You say you don't want to get wet? Don't worry, you won't. Wave Therapy uses state-of-the-art therapeutic massaging. saging, stress relieving machines with 36 acupressure water jets that give clients the ultimate massage, while he or she remains, somehow, both clothed and dry.

"These machines make peo-ple feel revived and exhilarated, while promoting health and healing," says Choi Tse, owner of the firm. She says a 15-minute Wave Therapy massage is equal to 45 minutes spent

is equal to 45 minutes spent with a professional masseuse. The machines promote health and fitness by increasing circulation, relaxing muscle spasms, reviving sore aching muscles and reducing pain, Tse says. They're also great for sports injuries, she adds. Clients have the benefits of three modalities: dry hydrotherapy, dry heat therapy, and acupressure/percussion therapy. Wave Therapy also holds stress reduction classes, works with hypnotherapists who specialize in stress reduction, and hosts regular Thursday night destressing gatherings.

Tuesday night is gay night. Gay and lesbian clients get double time in the machines, with

ble time in the machines, with half the proceeds going to Project Open Hand.

Appointments are preferred but not always necessary.

Phone (415) 956-6826 for more information or an appointment.

he Design Industries he Design Industries
Foundation Fighting
AIDS (DIFFA) has
released its second
Designed for Giving catalog
that offers a broad collection of
artistic, well-designed, and
unusual products contributing to
the fight for life.

A sampling includes German

A sampling includes German artist Carl Merten's stainless steel salad servers at \$145, ebony and silverplate chopsticks at \$90 and sirverpiate chopsticks at 590 a pair, and a porcelain plate with "peel face" from "Theme and Variations" by contemporary multi-media designer Piero Fornasetti at \$85. Not for every-body, but for discerning gift buyers who are not currently on a tight budget. Rosemary Kuropat is DIFFA's executive director.

is DIFFA's executive director.

For more information or a catalog contact DIFFA at P.O. Box 180, Orangeburg, New York, 10962-0108 or call 1-800-818-2906

ary A. Whooley is as authentically Irish as a black thornwood shillelagh, which is one of the handmade Irish imports she sells at her Irish Castle Gift Shop at 537 Geary Street (between Taylor and Jones). Whooley, who reminds us that her name is "pronounced as in hooligan," has several close gay male friends, but is not wanting to cash in on the rela-tionship. One of the unnamed Irish gay gents occasionally goes "on a bender," as the Irish



Bob Bednarz

are sometimes known to do

Last St. Patrick's Day Mary took part in a fundraiser for the Gaelforce at a local gay pub and is becoming increasingly well known in the lesbian and gay community. That Mary is gay-friendly "should go without say-ing," she explains. And while

some think the Irish are back-wards concerning sexuality, Mary says "We're a little more advanced in Ireland now," and "I don't care if you're bisexual or trisexual, you're just a person to me." Many of her lesbian and gay customers buy Claddagh rings, which are traditional Irish friend-ship rings. The two hands on the ship rings. The two hands on the ring symbolize friendship, the heart symbolizes love, and the crown at the top symbolizes loyalty. The rings worn by a couple indicate a committed relationship, which appears to be the name of the game these days. Mary is a member of the Tenderloin Merchants Association, and is doing her part to help the neighborhood rebound.

ob Bednarz, a Marin ob Bednarz, a Marin Roundtable board member, is highly enthusiastic about that fast-growing business networking group of lesbians and gay men who work to support each other's businesses and professions in Marin County. "We are, quite simply, the North Bay version of the Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA)." Business Association (GGBA)," Bednarz says.

Bednarz says.

Marin Roundtable now has a mailing list of over 200 participants, "and the list keeps growing and growing," Bednarz

Interest in the organization has been sparked by benefits offered to members. These include: quarterly business directories, monthly newsletters, monthly luncheon meet-ings, monthly business mixers, fundraisers, participation in a free summer picnic, holiday parties, and Rainbow Dollars.

Rainbow Dollars, an idea originated by Roundtable member Al Bousquet, is a fundrais-ing program that enables consumers who support lesbian and gay business and professionals to aid non-profit groups at the same time. Participating busi-nesses and professionals pledge a portion of their profits as a donation from transactions
(Continued on page 18)



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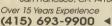
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PAGE 12-BAY AREA REPORTER-December 15, 1994

COMMUNITY NEWS

KFRC Sacks J. Paul Emerson

Gay-Baiting Radio DJ Fired

Susan Leal

Carole Migden

KFRC Radio has fired shock talk jock J. Paul Emerson, but a gay and lesbian media watchdog group says it will maintain a 'wait and see' attitude

about the station.

KFRC has been under fire throughout 1994
because of racist and anti-gay comments made by
Emerson and morning talk show co-host Gary

Bryan.
Shortly before Emerson was fired by KFRC General Manager Will Shutte on Wednesday, December 7 he was suspended for his comments regarding a Smithsonian Institute exhibit about the warplane Enola Gay, which dropped the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
During the broadcast, Emerson referred to the "stinking Japanese" and aired racist comments by listeners.

listeners.

His comments were immediately denounced by Margaret Fujioka of the Asian American Bar Association and other groups. Emerson's termination follows a meeting host-

Emerson's termination follows a meeting hosted by Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation concerning the homophobia and racism on the station's airwaves.

After a gay Mexican immigrant's request for asylum were ridiculed and lesbian and gay relationships were called "sick and pathetic" on the program last spring, Supervisors Susan Leal and Carole Migden intervened, calling for an investigation into the comments by the city's Human Rights Commission.

Migden later backed away from that request

Rights Commission.

Migden later backed away from that request after conservative *Chronicle* columnist Debra Saunders attacked the HRC intervention and expressed support for the radio disk jockeys.

KFRC General Manager Will Shutte said that

Emerson's termination was a clear message that under his management the station would not toler-

ate homophobia and racism.
"I don't think there could be a stronger state-

ment," he said of Emerson's termination.

Shutte told the Bay Area Reporter that Emerson was fired because of incidents on and off the air, involving violations of acceptable broadcast stan-

dards, and that his values were not shared by the station's management.

Leal told the B.A.R. she was pleased by Emerson's termination.

termination.

"I feel vindicated. I feel good about it. I'm very pleased to see the new management decided to make a change." she said.

According to Leal, the station trivialized the concerns about intolerace and

cerns about intolerance and hate speech under former general manager David Bramnick, and played a role in fostering stereotypes and the kind of climate where anti-gay violence is acceptable.

Laurie Falik, co-chair of the GLAAD board of directors, told the Bay Area Reporter that "the proof will be in the future," and said although Emerson was cerns about intolerance and

said although Emerson was fired, shock jock Gary Bryan made the anti-gay

comments.
Falik said that the coalirank said that the coalition of groups that met with Shutte on December 9, including the Japanese American Citizen League and Chinese For Affirma-

tive Action, would be monitoring the station, the program, and remaining DJ Gary Bryan for racist and anti-ray comments. and anti-gay comments.

Did Nicole Brown Simpson Go Through "Lesbian Hell?"

And Did She Go to the Crystal Cathedral To Escape?

by Karen Ocamb

The stories of murder victim The stories of murder victim Nicole Brown Simpson's lesbian love affairs first hit the tabloids with the publication of her "best friend" Faye Resnick's book, Nicole Brown Simpson: The Private Diary of a Life Interrupted. The book caused so much sengation Suproce Causel Interrupted. The book caused so much sensation Superior Court Judge Lance Ito temporarily suspended jury selection in the trial of O.J. Simpson, charged with the murder of his ex-wife Nicole and her friend Ron Goldman. Goldman.

Following the world-wide publicity the book received – in which Resnick blames the foot-ball star for chronic domestic violence – it is widely believed that O.J. Simpson and his attorneys launched a counterattack to discredit Resnick. Whether as a byproduct or an outright stratebyproduct of an outright state-gy, Nicole Brown Simpson has subsequently been painted as an almost "deserving victim" prone to uncontrollable drug abuse and wild sex parties.



According to "friends" of Nicole Brown Simpson, her awakening lesbianism was at odds with her devout Catholic background – at least that's the story in "America's favorite family weekly."

Nonetheless, as one New York Nonetheless, as one New York
Times reporter covering the
Simpson trial observed, the
tabloids have generally proven
to be more accurate in their Simpson coverage than the mainstream media.

The latest story in the November 29 National Examiner - "America's Favorite Family Weekly," according to its own cover – blares the headline: "Just weeks before murder ... NICOLE BEGGED TV

LESBIAN HELL. 'Robert Schuller's gift of love & grace eased my torment.'

eased my torment."

The story, entitled "NICOLE'S GAY NIGHT-MARE," reads in part: "Desperate Nicole Brown Simpson turned to TV preacher-evangelist Robert Schuller in her final days to help her escape from the demons that trapped

(Continued on page 31)

Marvelous News

Marvel Comics – which is currently re-vamping its X-Men comic book storyline – has announced that the short-lived gay superhero "Northstar" might make a comeback.

The Northstar character, featured in the Alpha Flight comic book series, officially "came out" in 1992, drawing the expected fire from fundamentalist homophobes (on his national television show, preacher/politician Pat Robertson lambasted Alpha Flight, calling the comic book "another example of a godless morality being legitimized to our youth").

In an interview with Wizard magazine, comics writer Scott Lobdell said that Northstar could be introduced as part of the new X-Men series. When specifically asked if Northstar would continue to be a gay character, Lobdell said: "If he appears in the book, yes. I don't think it would be fair to introduce him into the book and not explore every facet of the character."

The X-Men series is currently one of the most popular comic book creations, and the inclusion of a gay character would represent a significant breakthrough. Marvel has already demonstrated a commitment to gay visibility (the Alpha Flight comic book series was phased out for reasons not related to its gay character). Encourage Marvel and the X-Men writers to bring back Northstar, providing a unique and much-needed role model.

Send letters to Stan Lee, Publisher, Marvel Comics, 387

Send letters to Stan Lee, Publisher, Marvel Comics, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016, fax 212-576-9289.

Clinton Vetoes Masturbation

Bill Clinton seems to have a problem working with African-American women who are his moral and intellectual superiors. Most recently, the President fired Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders because — can you believe it — she spoke openly and honestly about masturbation! (Presumably, the same President who smoked marijuana but "never inhaled" has also never touched himself "down there.") Of course, Clinton's decision was motivated by much more than auto-eroticism.

The President's decision to fire Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders is an absolute capitulation to sex-negativity, ignorance and homophobia. In her tenure as the nation's Surgeon General, Elders stood for facts rather than fears. She took a stand against heterosexist attitudes that promote disease rather

stand against heterosexist attitudes that promote disease rather than health. Elders was one of the few public figures in Washington, DC who advocated for curricula that could teach

Washington, DC who advocated for curricula that could teach school children to respect rather than resent diversity. Joycelyn Elders was fired because she dared to "just say no" to the forces of bigotry.

Let Bill Clinton know what you think of his spineless politics. Contact The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500, tel. 202-456-1414, e-mail president@whitehouse.gov. Also, be sure to ask your representatives in Congress to speak out against the firing of Joycelyn Flders.

The Adam & Steve Channel?

Viacom Cable company has launched a new Pay-Per-View service, the "Adam & Eve Channel." The service offers "programming exclusively for adults" (i.e., soft-core porn). When asked if the new service would provide programming exclusively for heterosexuals, Viacom's general manager, Doug Schulz, explained, "Programming content is determined by the cable network. In this case, Adam & Eve Channel provides the cable network. In this case, Adam & Eve Channel provides the

cable network. In this case, Adam & Eve Channel provides the signal to Viacom and we transmit it on the cable system to our customers who choose to purchase this new premium service." Schulz did ask the folks at Adam & Eve if they would include lesbian/gay programming in the line-up. According to Schulz: "Shirley Ronsato, Vice President-Western Region at Adam & Eve, advises that at this time their line-up does not include lesbian/gay programming, but that the option is being explored." Schulz added that anyone interested in making programming suggestions (or perhaps suggesting a few video titles?) should write directly to the Adam & Eve Channel.

Contact Shirley Ronsato, Vice President-Western Region, The Adam & Eve Channel, 18514 Devonshire Blvd., Suite 449, Northridge, CA 91324, tel. 1-800-525-1563. Copy your correspondence to Doug Schulz, General Manager, Viacom Cable, 2055 Folsom, San Francisco, CA 94110-1330, tel. 415-863-8500.

415-863-8500.

Media Briefs

· HOMOPHOBIC BITE ... People magazine recently ran a a HOMOPHOBIC BITE ... People magazine recently ran a news bite about Kirsten Dunst, the 12-year old star of Interview with a Vampire. While commenting on the bizarre and graphic nature of the film, writers Dan Santow and Leah Feldon-Mitchell write: "Even weirder, at least to some people, might be the idea of casting a seventh-grader in a movie that drips with blood and hints at homoerotic interaction among the main male characters." Comments go to People, Time & Life Bldg., New York, NY 10020, fax 212-522-0794, e-mail 74774.1513@compuserve.com.

We must confront the media's homophobia in order to cure it! To notify the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage call our 24-hour Media Watch Hotline at 415-861-4588, or write to GLAAD/SFBA, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; fax, 415-861-4893; e-mail glaad sfba@uol.com.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

The B.A.R. Went Shopping...

Haighted It! (And Loved It, Too!)

by Mary Ann Swissler

The average tourist strolls down Haight Street looking for a long-gone San Francisco where record stores abound on every block and headshops are plentiful. Unfortunately, what they generally find now is that the street's Victorian storefronts are more likely to house a GAP or a Pier 1 Imports, weakly imitating the clothing boutiques and incense shops they have replaced.

But for anyone who has the time to look at what's on Haight, there are at least a half dozen recycled clothes stores, original design stores, and gift stores filled to the brim with some of the same things you can find in the Castro or the malls, but much cheaper.

Take the store Kweeiiho, for

Take the store Kweejibo, for example, near the corner of Central and Haight, featuring women's outfits by designer Cindy Cho. Cho said Christmas sales are good, mostly women buying for themselves or other women. The skirts and blazers and full-length dresses are unique, both fun and somber fabrics for the holidays.

At least stop by to see the glamour of their Victorian-

At least stop by to see the glamour of their Victorianthemed window display, since so few of the merchants along the Haight took any special care to design their windows.



Photo: Rick Gerhart

All that glitters: The window display at The Wasteland on Haight Street. Good pickings for Sugar Plum Fairy garb.

Reckless Records and Planetweavers Treasure Store are the places to go if you're buying for teens or anyone else who likes vintage rock and new artist posters. For under \$10 you can pick up old hippie posters – Janis, Jimi, John Lennon in New York, Frank Zappa with his legs spread – or pics of Ice-T, Dr. Dred, or the Beastie Boys.

You can pick up a nice-look-

You can pick up a nice-looking jean jacket for under \$40 at Aardvark's, which boasted the best selection and quality of jean jackets I've seen: woollined, plain vanilla ones, jean shirts, vests, and colored. The smaller sizes would make them better suited for female torsos.

better suited for female torsos.

Don't leave the Haight without visiting the sole store that
flies a gay flag, Planetweavers
Treasure Store. In addition to
selling UNICEF gift items and
other methods of recycling profits back into the community,
owner Andreas Blachian estimated that his store donates 25
percent of profits to ecological
and humanitarian organizations.

its back into the community, owner Andreas Blachian estimated that his store donates 25 percent of profits to ecological and humanitarian organizations.

Last year they gave \$850 in jewelry to the Stop AIDS Project. Each year, he said, they sell about \$25,000 in UNICEF cards and calendars.

cards and calendars.

And their collection of posters can only be described as sensual, freestyle, colorful, cosmic, and great! Same for the back section of the store, con-

taining rows of soaps, lotions, massage oils and tools, and hair conditioners.

For those of you with a little money to spend on that certain someone, they have a fine collection of authentic, wood-carved African masks, filled with expressions as quixotic as the Mona Lisa. Prices start at about \$15 and go up to about \$275. Colorful and ornate masks from Southeast Asia are also for sale. Dozens of handmade drums from around the world, ranging in price from \$50 to \$300, are also available.

made drums from around the world, ranging in price from \$50 to \$300, are also available.

If you're looking to trim your abode with lights just a little on the wild side, you can find red chili peppers, coke bottles, sunflowers, or combinations of palm trees and flamingos at Revival of the Fittest. The Wasteland is an unfortunate title for a store that sells clothes of all types, another example that it's a buyer's market for rag shoppers on a budget.

all types, another example that it's a buyer's market for rag shoppers on a budget.

If you want to plant yourself firmly back in 1977, don't leave the Haight without stopping at the reasonably priced Haight-Ashbury T-shirts. Outside of Dead concerts, you just don't see this much tie-dye anymore. Or, for that matter, the intricate silkscreening craftsmanship found on shirts of Jimi Hendrix and other deceased geniuses of pop culture. ▼



Time is of the essence at the Plantweavers Treasure Store on Haight Street.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Outstanding Service

Members of the Bay Cable Group (left to right: Lee Perron, Judy Argaza, Gina Jacobs and Jonathan B. Marx) presented a check in the amount of \$11,090.00 Dec. 5 to Pat Christen (far right), executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. The money was the product of a special fundraising campaign in which \$1 from each *Philadelphia* movie purchase was denoted to the foundation. donated to the foundation.

One L. Lounge Lizard **To Travel to Australia**

One viewer of San Francisco's weekly halfhour cable television lesbian and gay show Lavender Lounge will be the lucky winner of a trip to Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney,

to Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney, Australia next spring.

The \$2500 package, donated by Orion Travel, includes a 14-day tour, round trip non-stop to and from Sydney on United Airlines, 12 nights of luxurious hotel accommodations, a tour escort, and other fab perks including a welcoming authentic Aussie barbecue and poolside party.

Viewers only need to watch Lavender Lounge and call the number on the screen during regular business hours to register for the drawing. LL is on San Francisco Cable Channel 47 Tuesday nights from 10-10:30 p.m.

If you don't have a television or your cable has been shut off, you can still call the number – (415) 664-3233 – to register for the drawing.

The annual Sydney event is in its 17th year and is the largest lesbian and gay Mardi Gras in the world. The event culminates a month of festivities with a dazzling night time parade and an all night dance party. The contest runs through Tuesday, January 3, and a winner will be picked during the first week of Lonzer. dance party. The contest runs through Tuesday, January 3, and a winner will be picked during the first week of January.

For more info call the Lavender Lounge hotline at (415) 337-4921.

Charm School Redux

A 30-minute "commemorative edition" video of Charm School Reunion, the High Brow Society's annual drag ball that took place last October at the Eureka Valley Gym, has been released. More than 500 boys in beehives attended the fête, which featured Tales of the City co-star Chloe Webb as special guest hostess. Webb interviewed many of the fabulous, entertaining and even the downright scary Captivator College of Charm alumni in this video showcase. The annual

fundraiser raised more than \$11,000 for the Stop AIDS Project.

Produced by Titan Productions and duplicated by Chuck Holmes of Falcon Studios, the videos are available as of December 15, and can be are available as of December 13, and can be obtained by turning in the video redemption card received by ball attendees. Cards can be redeemed at Under Cover at 535 Castro Street or the Stop AIDS Project Office, located at 201 Sanchez Street at Market.

at Market.
Videos can also be purchased – but only after
January 1, 1995 – at Stop AIDS Project for \$15.
For more information contact the High Brow
Society's Ray Hailey at (415) 431-9656.

AIDS Organizations Surveyed

Approximately six percent of the AIDS Service Organizations recently surveyed by the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA) believe that the most important goal for their agency is raising funding for research. More than one in four believe that increasing public awareness of HIV/AIDS is the most important priority.

important priority.

Twenty-two percent of 432 representatives surveyed said they believe teaching under-served populations about testing and early intervention is the major priority. A plurality of 44 percent of the groups believe that the most important goal is increasing information, education, and support services within the AIDS convension.

increasing information, education, and support services within the AIDS community.

The survey was conducted during the 1994 National Skills Building Conference in Atlanta last month. The conference was conducted by NAPWA, the National AIDS Minority Council, and the AIDS National Interfaith Network.

For complete survey results contact NAPWA at 1413 K Street N W. With Floor Washington D.C.

1413 K Street N.W. 10th Floor, Washington D.C. 20005, or call (202) 898-0414. ▼

-Dennis Conkin

Who's Writing Their Names on a Wall at the Library?

In the wake of last week's Bay Area Reporter story about the James C. Hormel Reporter story about the James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center at the city's new Main Library – now under construction – signficant contributions continue to come in, according to Bill Hayes of the Library Foundation of San Francisco.

Gifts of any size are welcome.

Those who make donations of \$1,000 (and above) will receive recognition on the

Founders Wall of the Gay and Lesbian Center. But the deadline for names appearing on the Founders Wall is December 31, Hayes said. ▼

Persons who wish to make a gift may contact Hayes at the Library Foundation of San Francisco, 220 Montgomery Street, Suite, 406, San Francisco, CA., 94104. Phone (415) 391-5582.





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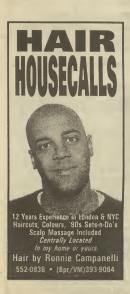
















Christmas Windows Keep The Castro Yuletide Bright

by Mary Richards

ne of the joys of the Castro Christmas is the atmosphere created by businesses that put special effort into decorating and illuminating their windows for the holiday season. This year is especially cheery, thanks to a number of strange and wonderful vignettes presented by neighborhood shops that have transcended the usual ho-ho-ho material in favor of more creative expression.

ho-ho-ho material in favor of more creative expression.

One of the first windows we stopped at was Mainline (516 Castro), where celestial Ken dolls garbed in white satin dresses and pearls flutter around on golden wings, happily transporting themselves through the clouds. They come equipped with halos, the occasional Stetson hat, and tiny, red AIDS awareness ribbons. These are obviously gay angels on a mission, and we couldn't help admiring their panache and determination as they float busily about the galaxy.

Owner Richard Urbiztondo decided to use Ken dolls, because as he says, "I thought they were uplifting, they were fun, and it's definitely The Castro." Gabi Jacobs helped in the design, and together they've created one of the most beguiling scenes of the season. Ken Angels can be purchased for \$30, and customers seem to crave them. Mainline has sold over 150 since Thanksgiving, and another shipment just landed to keep up with the demand.

The Headlines window (557 Castro) looked kind of ho-hum until we were transfixed at the main entrance by the sight of two huge, nude topiary musclemen (bet you don't believe us, but we're serious). These anatomically correct Atlas-like gents raise lighted branches sky-high in celebration of the season and to welcome all visitors.

Headlines Operations Director Tom Finan is the man responsible for these jolly green additions to the Castro, and he tells us that female versions grace their Market Street location. Tom took store mannequins, covered them in shrink-wrap, spray-glued them, and added some moss. He tells us they will change with the seasons, but right now they're a winter hit. The only problem seems to be that some customers get too carried away and can't resist pinching their private parts, which have to be re-sculpted weekly to, shall we say ... keep up appearances?

Wandering further down the street we couldn't resist the old-fashioned sweetness of the window at Cliff's Linen and Fabric Shop (471 Castro). Here we are, feeling like children, fascinated by a scene reminiscent of the Nutcracker Suite and Cinderella. (Although they sit perfectly still when they are

being observed by an audience, we've heard rumors that while Castro sleeps these tiny gay creatures are busy fussing over their decorations and organizing their presents under the tree.)

Paul Ellis, creator of the ongoing window soap opera Cliff's Edge, designed this charming tableau, and tells us that people have commented on its magical quality. Even though there are all manner of fun treats beneath the boughs, it's the puffy cotton mice with pink ears and colored mitts that are irresistible. Their outfits all button or snap in place, and their shoes untie. Anyone can have a pet of their own for \$12 (4-inch mini mouse), or \$18 (10-inch maxi mouse).

Turning down Market Street we passed some pleasant seasonal decorations, but stopped at one of our favorite spots, Off Your Dot (2241 Market). This store has been named for the way we feel some days, and makes shopping an adventure. Although no Santas or reindeer cavort in their window, artist Timothy Cummings, whose work is seen at shows and galleries around town, offers his own version of holiday madness.

"Marie Antoinette's Final Dream," as the creation in the window is called, floats above a snowy landscape. This quirky puppet, with her silver beehive, twisted lips, and a costume that opens to a stage set, is a queen who comes close to reminding us just how we're going to feel January 1. Co-owner Susan Lemmon says Marie's head is coming off after the holidays, but let's try to keep ours on while we enjoy all the season has to offer.

Have a wonderful time, whatever you do, whomever you see, wherever you go! ▼



Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphics

Queen's cronies: Puppeteer Timothy Cummings' Marie Antoinette lifts her skirts to reveal some concealed courtiers in the window of Off Your Dot on Market near Castro.



Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphic

Various "Kenny Angel" tree toppers are the featured fare in the Main Line Gifts window (courtesy of Richard Urbiztondo) on Castro Street.



Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphic

Tasty tree: Headlines on Castro goes green (thanks to decorator Tom Finan) for the holidays.

Greek and Active College Boys Raise Money and More

When the Greek active men of Delta Lambda Phi at San Jose State looked around for a way to raise funds for fraternity activi-ties last year, they started selling Rice Krispie treats, but that seemed to lack the snap crackle and pop that modern economics demand.

Now they've got a better idea: a calendar of some 16 dif-

idea: a calendar of some 10 dif-ferent fraternity men in the 18-30 age bracket. "Some are and some aren't fully clothed," says Al Perez, president of the San Jose chapter of the gay fraternity.

"There are no genitals exposed," he said to no end of disappointment. "But we tried to show as much skin as we could."

Delta Lambda Phi in San Jose needs money because it is about to host the annual nationabout to nost the annual national convention of the fraternity next July. Chapters from Washington, D. C. (where they exist in five different schools); Portland, Oregon; Boise, Idaho; the University of Minnesota; University of Nevada Las Vegas; San Francisco State; U.C. Davis; Sacramento State; San Diego State; and Stanford will The first openly gay national fraternity now has about 18 chapters on campuses nationwide, Perez said, with the heaviest membership on the West

Some of the funds raised by the sale of the calendars will go the sale of the calendars will go to the Aris Project in San Jose, a local HIV/AIDS service organization, Perez said. The fraternity is continually donating to such projects, he explained. "One of our members died of AIDS awhile ago, and we are committed to help-ing those struggling against the disease.'

The photos on the 1995 calendar were shot by Sharon Hall, a San Jose photographer. All of the young men on the calendar are fraternity members. "Those that couldn't be on the calendar helped in other ways, showing the diversity of our group," Perez said.

Producing the calendar was a "learning experience," Perez told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It was a really big project."

He said it pulled the group's

"creativity, our talents, our enthusiasm and our individual skills together."

Perez, 28, says he himself is on the calendar wearing "just my underwear and a smile."

Only 500 copies of the calendar wearing a smile.

dar were printed.

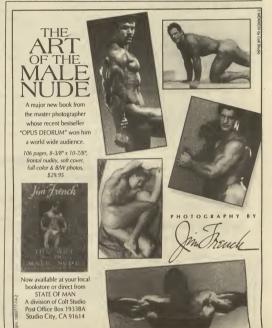
It's available in San Francisco at A Different Light Bookstore, Jaguar Bookstore, and Husbands. In San Jose you can pick up a calendar at Leather Master, Sister Spirit Bookstore, and the Water Garden.

A calendar party at the Water Garden is scheduled for New Year's Eve to promote the calendar if all of the copies are not gone by then.

To order a calendar by To order a calendar by mail, at a special bargain rate of \$10 send check or money order payable to Delta Lambda Phi and mail to Delta Lambda Phi, Omicron Chapter, PO Box 90001, San Jose, CA, 95109-3001.



Animal House, Deux? No, it's the gay and bisexual men of Delta Lambda Phi (Omicron Chapter at San Jose State University) posing for their new fundraising calendar. Word has it that Mr. October is a future contender for several Big Basket contests here in the city.





Holiday Happenings in the East Bay

East Bay Correspondent

Whatever your personal take on this holiday season, everyone can agree there's plenty to do. Even the sleepy East Bay will don its finest Christmas garb and celebrate the holidays.

Thursday, December 15

• The traditional Christmas fest at the East Oakland • The traditional Christmas fest at the East Oakland landmark Dunsmuir House has been expanded this year to include jazz, gospel, pop, and Latin music, in addition to the traditional Christmas music. Until Sunday, December 18, the 24th Annual Christmas at Dunsmuir House & Gardens will include a tour of the decorated mansion and free concerts held in the Pavilion Cafe Theater at 2:30 p.m. Dunsmuir is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and admission is \$9; \$4 for children 6-13. Kids under 6 go in for free.

Call 510-562-3332 for more information and

Call 510-562-3232 for more information and

• Those who are able might consider giving the gift of life this holiday season by donating blood at select-ed sites set up by the Blood Bank of the Alamada-Contra Costa Medical Association. On Thursday, December 15, St. Elizabeth Parish at 1500 34th Ave in the Fruitvale District of Oakland will be open from 1-6 p.m. On Friday, December 16, Contra Costa Blood Center at 140 Gregory Lane in Pleasant Hill will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Call 1-800-841-1986 for more information.

Friday, December 16

• Feel like networking? The East Bay Business &

Professional Alliance December Open House will be held Friday, December 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Boadecia's Books, located at 398 Colusa Ave. in

Call 510-559-9184 for more information.

• "Everyday Magic: Love It Feel Like a Fool" is the theme of this year's Judy and Betsy's Sometimes Annual Solstice Concert/Ritual, an eclectic gathering of women who share song and words of hope for the upcoming year. It will be held at the Unitas House, 2700 Bancroft St. in Berkeley at 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$6-\$10, along with a non-perishable food item for donation to a homeless women and children's center.

center.

Call Betsy at (510) 525-7082 or Judy at (707) 944-

 Mama Bear's will feature a women-only evening of black lesbian love songs, with London-based singer/songwriter Adeola and special guest Valerie Brown of Voices. Showtime is at 8 p.m. and reserva-tions are suggested. \$8.\$10. Mama Bear's is located at 6536 Telegraph Ave. in Oakland.

Call (510) 428-9684 for further information.

Saturday, December 17

• The Plum City Players is a children's program featured at La Pena Center, located at 3105 Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley at 10:30 a.m. Admission is \$2. Call (510) 849-2568 for more information.

• Women mystery writers come to life at the "Christmas Crime Creator Fest" at M.C. Newburn Books, located at 950 San Pablo Avenue in Albany,

from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

· Lesbians looking for a night of comedy featuring Lesbians looking for a night of comedy featuring a group of very funny women might want to try "Over Our Heads" at Mama Bear's, located at 6536 Telegraph Avenue in Oakland, on Saturday, December 17 at 8 p.m. Karen Ripley, Teresa Chandler, Annie Larson, and Marian Damon will perform. Admission to the women-only event is \$8-\$10. Call 428-9684 for further information.

Sunday, December 18

• The Metropolitan Community Church, located at 9th and Hearst Streets in Berkeley, will host a potluck immediately following the 12:30 p.m. service. A white elephant gift exchange will be held. Then, a Christmas Eve candlelight and carols service will be held at 11 p.m. Hot cider and tea will be served afterwards.

• Meet other political animals at the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club's Holiday Party, begin-ning at 5 p.m. It will be held at a group member's pri-

Call (510) 763-3196 for information and direc-

Wednesday, December 21

On the Winter Solstice, the Hypnosis Clearing House, located at 3702 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette, will hold a solstice ritual at 7 p.m. to celebrate the transformative powers of the seasons. Original harp and flute music by Paul Michael Meredith and Roxanne Vasconcellos is promised. \$10 for adults; \$5 for children and seniors. for children and seniors.

Call (510) 283- 3941 for more information.



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Business

(Continued from page 11)

where the customer requests it. The customer decides where the donation will go.

donation will go.

Luncheon meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month. Speakers have included Kerry Enright from the AIDS Memorial Grove, David Romps from the Harvey Milk Institute, and the Reverend Janie Spahr. Recent luncheons were held at the Chinook Restaurant in San Rafael, where owner Sunita Dutt is credited with providing delicious food and a super gay-

Dutt is credited with providing delicious food and a super gay-friendly atmosphere.

Marin Roundtable board members include Gayle Anderson of MG Anderson and Associates, Michael Carlson of Prudential California Realty, Lane Crosby of Sensart Video Production, Gail Theller of Community Action Marin, and others.

Marin, and others.

The Roundtable's next business mixer, to be hosted by Bednarz representing Pacific Guarantee Mortgage, will be in the Banquet Room next to Joe the Banquet Room next to Joe Lo Coco's Restaurant, located at 300 Drakes Land in Greenbrae, on Tuesday, January 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information contact Bednarz at 925-9900, extension 149.

he new 1995 MC Film Festival Home Video catalog, called the Festival Home Video catalog, called the largest single source of gay and lesbian videos in America, is now available. It features more than 1,200 gay and lesbian videos including a selection of early gay silent films. The distributor says none of the videos are XXX. The new catalog includes hundreds of books dealing with gay/lesbian arts, theater, and movie stars. The gay-owned and operated company sells nationally and internationally and rates all videos as SGL (suitable for gay and lesbian audiences.)

and lesbian audiences.)

Call Mark and Carrie at 1-800-445-7134 and ask for your free catalog.

More Ho Ho Holiday Events

nly ten more days until Christmas – and count-ing fast – and gay and lesbian festivities continue in high gear.

Here are some condensed summaries of holiday offer-ings and entertainment suggestions, in chronological

Thursday, **December 15**

• Tonight, the Golden Gate Business Association, the * Ionight, the Golden Gate Business Association, the nation's first gay and lesbian Chamber of Commerce, will celebrate the season with a holiday party at the California Federal Bank, located at 444 Castro Street, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Catering arrangements were made through Project Open Hand and guests are encouraged to bring non-perishable food donations for the Open Hand Food Bank. A special gift raffle will benefit The LYRIC (Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center) After School Program. Cost to attend the party is \$10, which includes hors d'oeuvres, wine, soft drinks, and one free wine, soft drinks, and one free raffle ticket.

To donate an item for the

LYRIC gift raffle or to RSVP call the GGBA Office at (415) 441-3651.

Friday, **December 16**

• Hospice by the Bay's Tree of Life Celebration, honoring patients and their families, is at 6 p.m. tonight at The Forum in the Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens, located at 701 Buena Gardens, located at 701 Mission Street. The Tree of Life Celebration is the annual fundraising event for Hospice by the Bay, a non-profit charitable organization. Funds raised support hospice care. The dinner is \$25 per person and contributions are appreciated.

• "Animal" Joe Smith sends "beast wishes" for a great season and reminds B.A.R. readers of Animal's Savage Christmas, a viral celebration, which plays on Friday and Saturday, December 16 and 17. The music-theatre celebration consists of two separate performances: first is Sex and the Savage Lutheran at 7:30 p.m. (jazz vespers based on the Lutheran evening rite, written this year as a response to the Lutheran evening rite, written this year as a response to the current and continuing homophobic actions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America against lesbian and gay pastors). Animal's Positive Christmas 3: A Viral Celebration, at 8:30, uses liturgies from the Advent season, traditional Yuletide songs, and a few original tunes to comment few original tunes to comment on how the HIV-positive see themselves and how others see themselves and how others see them. It features harpsichord, French horn, trumpet, piano, bass, drums, flute, and voices in a unique South-of-Market assembly of talent. Admission is \$8-\$12, on a sliding scale. One admission is good for both shows on the same evening at Lennon Studios, located at 271 Dore Alley, in

the city. Warning: Unapologetic Christian Content!

For reservations and infor-

mation, call (415) 561-l441

Sunday, December 18

• A Group of Groups (AGOG) has scheduled a holiday brunch at Gabbiano's Restaurant, located at One Ferry Plaza in the city, according to Phil James of the High Tech Gazette. AGOG is a new group of gay/lesbian/bisexual employees associations of San Francisco Bay Area companies and organizations. AGOG. and organizations. AGOG, which got underway in June, has members from such companies as VISA, Pacific Bell, AT&T, Wells Fargo Bank, PG&E, Levi Strauss, and oth-

Contact AGOG at P.O. Box 14513, San Francisco, CA 94114, or call (415) 627-7533 (voicemail).

• If you're wondering how you'll have time for all those holiday events, and who wouldn't, **Project Inform** will gladly handle your holiday card list this season. Project Inform's volunteers will send your holiday needs for the season. Inform's volunteers will send your holiday cards for you for a suggested donation of \$5 per card – which, for this project, will be Michael Cronan's Angel card. All persons on your list will be informed that you have made a generous gift in their honor to Project Inform. Better hurry. They will accept orders only until Monday, December 19.

Call Jane Levikow at (415) 558-8669 for more information. Or just send your list and contribution to Project Inform, 1965 Market Street, No. 220, San Francisco, CA., 94103. or Fax (415) 558-0684.

· If your holiday problems are of a more serious nature, the AIDS/HIV Nightline, an emotional support project of San Francisco Suicide Prevention, will extend hours during the holiday season, says Program Director David Paisley. Because the holidays can be a very stressful time for people dealing with AIDS or HIV infection, and since service agencies are often closed and friends and caregivers may be out of town or unavailable, the AIDS/HIV Nightline is open during the most difficult times for people to access emotional support. During the holidays, the program will be open around the clock to assure that all people dealing with HIV have access to emotional support and crisis intervention services, Paisley said. tional support and crisis intervention services, Paisley said. Staff and volunteer counselors will be available 24 hours a day from December 24 through January 2.

Anyone with an HIV concern can call the Nightline at (415) 434-4AIDS in San Francisco or 1-800-273-AIDS in Northern California. ▼



of "Animal's Savage Christmas" fame sends "beast wishes" for the holidays

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CDC Study: Unsafe Sex Is Back

San Francisco gay and bisex-ual men are becoming infected with HIV at a higher rate than a few years ago, and two-thirds of gay and bisexual men do not always use condoms during anal sex, early results from a new AIDS study indicate.

The data point to an upswing in unsafe sex among gay men who adopted safer sex practices during the 1980s, and they cor-relate with other studies' findings that young gay and bisexu-al men are practicing unsafe sex at disturbingly high levels. The increase in new infections means that the chance that a gay man's sex partner is HIV-positive is higher than it was a few years ago, meaning that a single unsafe sexual encounter is mo likely than before to lead to HIV infection.

The study also found that condom breakage and misuse are relatively common, and that drugs and alcohol can create lapses in judgment that lead to condom misuse and to unsafe sex. But the biggest predictor of all of having unsafe sex is being in a long-term relationship, a time when many men who oth-erwise use condoms decide to forgo them.

findings are from the first 18 months of the Sexually Active Men (SAM) Study, a long-term look at sexually

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active gay and bisexual men in San Francisco, Chicago, and Denver; with 1,769 men partic-ipating, it is the largest study of its kind.

The study, which is funded by the federal Centers for Disease Control and the National Institute for Allergies and Infectious Diseases, found that 2.8 percent of the men in the study became infected with HIV in a one-year period. The HIV-infection rate was 3.1 percent for San Francisco and 2.6 percent for Chicago and Denver, but those differences are statisti-cally insignificant, said Dr. David McKirnan, principal investigator for the Chicago part of the study and associate professor of psychology at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Those percentages are only for one year, McKirnan empha-sized, meaning that some of the men who escaped infection in this part of the study likely will test positive in the future.

High HiV infection rate a surprise

Researchers were surprised at the relatively high rates of

to find," said Dr. Susan Buchbinder, principal investiga-tor for the San Francisco portion of the study and chief of research for the AIDS office of

the San Francisco Department of Public Health. A 1992 confer-ence of AIDS experts in San Prancisco estimated the rate of new infections in that city at between 1 percent and 1.5 percent, not the 3.1 percent that the study found.

McKirnan said he was "shocked" at the 2.6 percent fig-ure for Chicago. He had predict-

a rate of 1 percent. With HIV-infection rates as high as they are now, unsafe sex is potentially more risky for all men who have sex with other

men.
"It means that the pool of people infected – those who can people infected – those who can potentially infect others – con-tinues to rise," McKirnan said. "And it's increasing at a far greater rate than a few years

The level of risky behavior is still dramatically lower than when AIDS first hit," McKirnan added. "But these seroconversion rates are huge."

sion rates are huge."

The study, though, suffers from the same problem that all research on gay and bisexual men automatically has: there simply is no list of all the gay men in the country from which to draw a random sample, so an accurate portrait of the entire gay and bisexual community is impossible to attain.

that led to groups of subjects that probably were more risky than average. For example, the Chicago part of the SAM study excluded all men who had never had anal sex in the previous year, and it recruited men from advertisements in gay newspa-pers and in places such as health clinics and gay bars. On the other hand, some of the riskiest groups of men- including pros-titutes, heavy drug users, and those with serious psychological problems – are unlikely to participate in scientific studies, thus skewing the study toward more conservative conclusions.

Unsafe sex common

Unprotected anal sex is still the leading cause of HIV transmission among gay men, and the study found that 66 percent of men in the study had either insertive or receptive anal sex without a conden at least one. without a condom at least once in an 18-month period.

Forty-seven percent of the men had unprotected receptive anal sex during that time. But the majority of those men reported that they engaged in safer sex most of the time, only occasionally lapsing into unprotected intercourse. Of course, only one unsafe encounter can

lead to HIV infection.

"People move in and out of being risky," McKirnan said.
"Maybe that's part of the complacency factor. People think, 'I'm not risky all the time. I just do it some of the time."

Some of the men said they engaged in unsafe sex in places such as bathhouses, backrooms at adult bookstores, and back-rooms at bars, places that appear to be gaining in popularity, he

those settings knowing that they can have unsafe sex in those set-

HIV reported a condom break, compared with 25 percent of those who did not become infected.

Researchers are still inter-viewing people to obtain hard data on exactly what led to the condom breakage, but ignorance of how to correctly use condoms-how to put one on and what type of lubricant to use – seems to be a major factor.

"People are afraid to admit they don't know about con-doms," said Julie Doesch, prodoms, said Julie Doesen, pro-ject coordinator for the Chicago part of the study. "The percep-tion is that if you're a gay man in the 1990s, you're a condom expert.

Yet even some of those who do know how to use a condom make mistakes while under the make mistakes while under the influence of alcohol and drugs, and especially while high on amyl nitrate, or poppers.

"They're sufficiently the continuation of the influence of

"They're sufficiently impaired that they're putting the condom on the wrong way, or they're tearing at it," McKirnan

Drug and alcohol use in itself correlates with HIV infection, correlates with HIV infection, with cocaine, poppers, and amphetamines such as speed or ecstasy showing the strongest relationship with HIV infection. Of the men who became infected with HIV, 43 percent used cocaine. Of those men who remained HIV-negative, 16 percent used cocaine.

cent used cocaine.

That is partly because drugs are sometimes used during sex, and they tend to increase the sex drive, Doetsch said. In addition, drugs tend to lower inhibitions, making people more likely to engage in risky activities, she engage in risky activities, she said. The drugs themselves may be having the physical effects of suppressing the immune system, Doetsch added. More than one-third of the

men in the study reported hav-ing a known HIV-positive partner at least once in an 18-month period. There is not yet hard data on whether the men were more likely to practice safer sex with their HIV-positive partners than which other partners, but more than half of those who became infected with HIV had had sex with a known HIV-posnad sex with a known HIV-pos-titive person. Twenty-seven per-cent of those who remained HIV-negative had sex with an HIV-positive man.

Men who became infected also had a higher number of partners, averaging 8.5 partners per year, compared with the 3.5 partners had by men who were set infected. not infected.

Personal commitment to safer sex plays a big role in whether a man will use a condom. Men who are more wor-ried about having anal sex, having swallowed semen, or having had several anonymous partners over a weekend were more likely to use a condom, interviews with study participants showed.

More info needed

The data in the SAM study is still preliminary, because the last series of interviews with subjects was only two months ago, and researchers need to put more numbers together to draw

additional conclusions.

They also want to query subjects more on why they continue to take sexual risks, even when many are relatively well-educat-ed on AIDS issues. "People's sexual choices are

(Continued on page 23)



Safe sex education programs like this one from the SF AIDS Foundation aren't working as well as they should, but are, according to experts, nevertheless vital

reasons, including the belief that use of a condom indicates a lack

of trust and that forgoing con-doms shows how much a person loves someone, McKirnan said.

In addition, many men – especially younger men – have a difficult time trying to negotiate safer sex, he said.

predictor of unsafe sex is safer sex "burnout." Many gay men who have long practiced safer sex have become worn out by it, and sometimes lapse into unsafe

That factor is especially true for gay men who came of age

sexually either at the beginning of the AIDS epidemic or before information about AIDS became

study only included men who were HIV-negative at the beginning of 1993, which means that

the older gay men who became HIV-positive during the first 18 months of the study probably

had generally practiced safer sex during the 1980s and early

1990s, apparently lapsing back into unsafe behavior during the time of the study.

On the other side of the age spectrum are young gay men.

"It seems as though younger are riskier, and they

gay men are riskier, and they have a slightly higher transmis-sion rate," Buchbinder said. "That's very disconcerting – to have men starting out in their

adult lives becoming infected."
Younger gay men generally have not seen the brunt of the

have not seen the brunt of the epidemic so they sometimes assume that AIDS is more a problem of older gay men, McKirnan said. In addition, the general feeling of youthful invulnerability that leads young people to take other risks in life such as driving a car fast the property of the

- such as driving a car fast - may lead to greater risk-taking

A surprisingly high figure to researchers was the level of condom breakage. Nearly one of three men reported that a condom broke during the 18-month study period. Forty percent of those who became infected with

Misuse of condoms

The second most common

"It's higher than we expected find," said Dr. Susan

But unsafe sex is more common with long-term partners than with anonymous partners. In fact, the most common predictor of anal sex without a condom is being in a long-term relationship.

That could be for a variety of

tings," he said.

impossible to attain.

The study also used criteria

"It would be a riskier group of guys than the general gay population," McKirnan said. "But I think it's a fair reflection of guys who are sexually

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said.
"Some of the guys approach

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Trip to Voicemail Hell

No one works harder to lift the living standards of people living with AIDS or HIV infec-tion than the volunteer-staffed non-profit service organizations in the greater Bay Area. Except perhaps the poor buggers who try to get them on the phone.

For after a few mental health lapses from being placed in the black hole of "hold please," and aggravated carpal tunnel syndrome from accessing the endless list of voicemail choices, one has to wonder: whatever happened to live telephone operators? And then see lease telese ators? And then, as sleep takes over, whatever is to happen to

True, a mechanized phone system cuts down on idle chatter, freeing up employees and volunteers alike to work on behalf of their clients. But those behalf of their clients. But those clients almost unanimously hate it, even if they've become resigned to it by now, and the fact is most people who have voicemail hate it, too. One San Francisco gay man admitted, "I'm more afraid of my voice-mail that lens of my consensations." mail than I am of my own moth-

Still, with threats of budget cuts looming and everybody busy, busy, busy, voicemail is obviously here to stay. And so are the complaints.

are the complaints.

The Bay Area Reporter surveyed seven agencies in San Francisco and the East Bay, most of which had voicemail. What separated the good ones from the bad was this: good voicemail mentions right away that pressing "0" will get you an operator.

The prize for mystery voice mail undoubtedly goes to the Stop AIDS Project: "If you are returning a message from Mike please dial 235," it said. "If you are returning a phone call from Randy please dial 226." The remainder of the message listed where they are, how to fax them, and how to reach support group numbers, but not how to reach a

numbers, but not how to reach a live operator.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is certainly the most comprehensive non-profit in the Bay Area and its voicemail choices reflected this. It takes almost a minute to find out the AIDS Hotline extension, which it with the AIDS Hotline for the AIDS Hotline for the AIDS Hotline for the AIDS Hotline extension, which is what a lot of people call for. It took ten seconds for the introduction, although "You may enter 0 for Operator at any time" was right up front – but that (of course) would land you on hold. The 40-second sub-menu was

Try to follow along: "You Try to follow along: "You may enter your choice at any time. For directory of employees by last name, please dial 2411. For volunteer services please dial 8652. For the AIDS Hotline please dial 111. For media relations, please dial 3070. For development, please dial 3041. For public policy, please dial 3080. For executive director, please dial 3079. tive director, please dial 3079. And for the operator, please dial 0."

dial 0."

A call to the AIDS Hotline reveals that it is better not to have a crisis during banker's hours, when they may put you on hold for 15 – count 'em, 15 – minutes. "We'll be with you soon, but if you can't stay on the line now, we're usually less busy in the evenings and on the weekend."

In its defense, SFAF has

weekend."

In its defense, SFAF has phone calls piled up like rush hour traffic; not only do they get calls from members of the public, but from other agencies' referrals as well.

referrals as well.

One of those agencies is the city of San Francisco AIDS Office, which did have a live operator who knew quite a bit about the forthcoming about the forthcoming December 16 deadline for a Section 8 housing lottery. But she urged calling SFAF to get a



social worker for help with the process. "Everything is in the computer so they could bring it up anywhere in the Bay Area – anything you would need."

The "Easiest Pickings" award goes to Project Open Hand where people answered.

Hand, where people answered the phone, and explained that a potential applicant could get food delivered sometime within the next 24 hours after a short

intake interview over the phone.
Contra Costa County has but
one single group out there, the
Diablo Valley AIDS Center,
which ran their voicemail every time they were called: day, night, and the weekend. Maybe someone calls in for messages.

Without question, the all-around worst award goes to the U.S. Social Security Administration for having both the phoniest sounding voicemail

persona and the longest wait. The highlights: "Thank you for calling Social Security. A representative will answer your call in approximately five minutes." Let's just say that "approximately" is an extraordinarily flexible

concept there.

The wait to be sprung from hold, with a receiver tucked

under the chin for long periods of time, is neither as heartwarming as the long distance companies' commercials nor as sexy as 1-900-FELCH-ME. On the other hand, it wasn't a dollar a minute. Thank God.

(To thank God, who is either away or on the other line, dial the very big star button, now...) ▼

UN AIDS Effort Reorganized

by Larry Schuster, UPI Science and Technology Editor

NEW YORK - The United Nations announced Monday, December 12 it is reorganizing its global AIDS effort under a new Geneva-based program that will seek to coordinate the efforts of five UN agencies and the World Bank.

Dr. Peter Piot, who recently led the society that organizes the annual International Conference on AIDS, was named director. on AIDS, was named director.
The joint program will seek to
coordinate the global AIDS
efforts of the United Nations
Children's Fund; the United
Nations
Development Nations Development Programme; the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization; the United Nations Population Fund; the World Bank; and the World Health Organization. UN officials said the program should be fully operational by early 1996

In an interview, Piot said he had no information about the size of the budget, but said he expected fundraising would be part of his role, as well as ensur-ing funds are more efficiently

used.

Also Piot said the program will focus part of its attention on the consequences of the disease. He observed that with an increasing number of communities devastated by the disease and orphans left homeless, "It's

becoming more and more a development issue."

Greater emphasis will be placed on the care of individuals made ill by the disease, and care

of the orphans and support for devastated communities. A Belgium physician, Piot was director of research and development of the Global Program on AIDS, of the WHO. In a statement, the UN said he initiated a new approach to preminime a new approach to pre-vention and control of sexually-transmitted diseases, which focuses on behavior change and on accessibility to health sys-

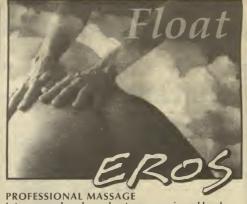
Piot launched and expanded the first international AIDS project in a developing country, and "is widely acknowledged to have provided the basis of our understanding of HIV infection and prevention in Africa," the

UN statement said.

Shortly after being named director, Piot said, "I'm quite

moved at the moment. This happened a few hours ago. I realize now it's a new phase in my life. "I'm not naive. I'm well

aware the challenges are enormous." ▼



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Delavirdine (U-90, BHAP)
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Two groups of volunteers with 200-500 CD4: those who have taken AZT for 4-24 months, who receive either AZT plus NVP or AZT plus placebo, and those who have not taken antivirals, who receive NVP or placebo. The study offers cross-over to active drug for all participants. Boehringer Ingelheim.

For further information, please call Mark Bowers at (415) 353-6215.
HIVCare is a program of the Clinical Research Department at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde St., SF 94109.

NATIONAL NEWS

Is Paras Burning? The Controversy Heats Up

The December 6 announcement by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) that Melinda Paras had been selected as it next executive director, was seen as highly controversial in many corners of the lesbian and gay community.

Paras's most significant prior administrative position, certainly the one for which she was most highly road, was at Shanti Project, where she roce.

highly paid, was at Shanti Project, where she rose to deputy director. Both Paras and executive direc-tor Eric Rofes resigned in April 1993 when, under a cloud of mismanagement of government contracts, the city pulled back those contracts from

Paras had started with Shanti working on diversity training and multi-cultural programs. "But once she got there, with amazing speed, suddenly she was up to her eyeballs involved with the financing," recounted Marc Ansley, chief financial officer for Shanti from December 1990 to February 1992. Rofes soon created the position of deputy directors and rowed Perse to fell; in the control of the con

deputy director and moved Paras to fill it.

"She had her nose in the books and contracts so deep that it came out black," Ansley said. "Nothing got to Eric [Rofes] without going through her."

"Once it [a contract] was granted, Melinda deemed they were going to do other things with the money," said Ellen Hardtke. She was director of housing, Shanti's biggest program, and the one who "blew the whistle" on misuse of contract

money.

It wasn't pocket change either, a total of \$450,000 in just one year. Ansley and Hardtke supplied numerous example of how money was spent on things not specified in the contracts. \$333,000 earmarked for direct housing services was redirected to other purposes. That translated into more than 40 PWAs out on the streets, they charge, and the purpose in the housing the contracts had paid for

not in the housing the contracts had paid for.

Paras and Rofes often used the money to create administrative slots, which they then proceeded to fill with their friends. According to Hardtke, close to fifty percent of the budget went to administrative overhead and fundraising, substantially higher than should be the case in an organization of that

the overnead and fundraising, substantially higher than should be the case in an organization of that type.

"People were given jobs they weren't competent for," Hardtke said. She maintains that because they weren't capable of fulfilling the professional responsibilities of the job, keeping it depended on staying in the good graces of Paras and Rofes. "It was very much like the Mafia, with a loyalty oath." Pressure mounted in early 1993 and led to the resignations of Paras and Rofes, both ostensibly for reasons of health. Shanti returned \$1.9 million in contracts "voluntarily before the [city's] AIDS office demanded it," its interim executive director, Paul Lambros, told the Advocate at that time.

"We have problems with their mismanagement of a substantial amount of city money," Dr. Mitchell Katz told the press in 1993. He is director of the city of San Francisco's AIDS office.

Several audits ensued, including an independent one by the outside firm of Coopers & Lybrand. It found "excess reimbursement for disallowed expenses."

"The audit demonstrates that during 1991-92, Shanti was seriously out of compliance with city contracts," Katz later told the San Francisco Chronicle.

Shanti is still negotiating terms and conditions

Shanti is still negotiating terms and conditions of repaying the money. [See sidebar.]

Paras and her defenders say the problems at Paras and her defenders say the problems at Shanti were just typical growing pains of an organization under the massive influx of Ryan White AIDS money. An inadequate computer system contributed to the missteps. They also point out that no money was diverted to personal gain.

Ansley acknowledged there were growing pains, and he lamented the antiquated computer system they were saddled with a Shazii. But he

pains, and he lamented the antiquated computer system they were saddled with at Shanti. But he refused to blame misspending on the computer. "A computer system does not arbitrarily assign money," Ansley said. He maintains that it was Paras who was making the decisions to reprogram funds despite his insistence that they were not allowed under the contracts.

He also schowledged that the paper trail to

He also acknowledged that the paper trail to Paras is thin. "Melinda's signature is not on a single contract," Ansley said. "She was smart enough to know that she needed to have someone else's signature, which were mine and Eric [Rofes]'s, so she can stand up there and say, 'I had nothing to do with the finances,' and there is not a piece of paper to negate that claim." The defense that neither Paras nor Rofes pocketed money themselves seems a bit of a straw man. Not even their worst critics have accused them of

doing so. The issue is not one of personal but of professional venality.

"They were guilty of taking money from PWAs and using it on friends," Hardtke said. "PWAs went homeless because of it."

Political Controversies

Paras's left wing connections are legendary: she dropped out of high school in 1970 and joined the Venceremos Brigade working in Cuba; she was deported from the Philippines for anti-government activities and later at Shanti spoke of running guns

activities and later at Shanti spoke of running guns to Communist insurgents during that period. For years she was a member of the obscure and extreme Marxist-Leninist group Line of March. "I see capitalism as having a few more rounds to go... until masses of people begin to wield political power," Paras told attendees to the NGLTF Creating Change conference last year in North Carolina. She now describes herself as a "progressive Democrat."

News Analysis

"I don't know if a gay leader with a record of supporting Marxist causes is what the gay move-ment needs right now," said activist Michael Petrelis of the national organization Gay and

Lesbian Americans.
Other community leaders began to express similar concerns as they learned more of Paras's back-ground. But they are so far unwilling to have their names publicly associated with those thoughts.

"I believe there is room in the community for various different points of view," said Alexander Robinson with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). And with Paras, "they are solidly on the left." He questioned, "Where is the centrist organi-

left." He questioned, "Where is the centrist organization" for the community?

One fear is that gay opponents on the right will use Paras's communist connections to tar the entire gay and lesbian movement, just as they did this past year with NAMBLA. "Gay bashing is going to happen," said one observer, "but do we have to be so stupid as to hand them the bat and say, hit mea?"

Spinning the Story



Melinda Paras

Objections to Paras began to resurface in September, soon after NGLTF hired her as a temporary consulto help run tant to help run the foundering organization. The board knew they would have a hard sell when they announced that Paras would be staying on and stepping up to be exec-utive director. They went into overdrive trying to spin the story.

In late November two

Melinda Paras In late November two postings appeared in the America Online folder where a lively exchange had developed over Paras and the initial decision by NGLTF to hire her as a consultant. They were a spirited and detailed defense that only someone with inside information seemed capable of making.

seemed capable of making.

But instead of carrying the screen identification of three initials followed by NGLTF, the "handle" for accounts at the Task Force, it read "Centaur TX." Pulling up the "profile" Centaur had entered, it matched the geographic, physical, and professional characteristics of Gregory Fisher, board member and acting director of communications at NGLTF.

NGLTF.
Were Fisher and Centaur the same person? And if so, why did he not use his NGLTF account to make the statements? Or identify himself and his affiliation so that readers could better, more fully evaluate the information?

Fisher refused to discuss the questions. "I don't know that I am willing to talk about my AOL relationship," he said. "I haven't confessed to posting anything."

If in fact Fisher and Centaur are the same person, those postings would appear to violate at least

(Continued on page 23)

That Shanti Money: Still in Litigation

The B.A.R. erroneously reported last week that Shanti Project has paid back some \$459,000 to the San Francisco Department of Public Health, owed for services charged to housing contracts during the 1991-92 contact period. In fact, Shanti is currently in arbitration with its former accounting firm over who must repay

money.

The funds represent the total amount the non-profit AIDS ser-vice organization owes the city, according to Mitch Katz, M.D., director of the Health Department's AIDS Office.
"I'm confident that the funds will be repaid as soon as possible," Katz told the Bay Area

Reporter.

Katz said that the agency has agreed to a three-step plan for securing the funds due the city and that if arbitration attempts with the accounting firm do not with the accounting firm do not successfully recoup the entire cash amount, the agency will seek to have the board of directors' liability insurance cover the amount: failing that, Shanti will seek to raise the funds from private sources.

The accounting firm is the

The accounting firm is the subject of legal action for its failure to catch the problem in an internal audit.

"I don't know how any

accounting firm wouldn't have found the problem and notified the board as part of an audit,"



Dr. Mitchell Katz, director of the SF Health Department's AIDS Office: "I'm confident that the funds will be repaid as soon as possible."

Katz said. Katz told the B.A.R. that an AIDS office investigation and complaints by Ellen Hardtke, a former housing services pro-gram manager for Shanti, led to the discovery the funds were misspent on other services for people with AIDS.

Hardtke had charged that

most of the funds were used to build a second tier of manage-

ment at the agency.

Executive Director Eric
Rofes and Deputy Director
Melinda Paras resigned from the
agency shortly after the investi-

After the independent audit ordered by the San Francisco

Department of Public Health, Department of Public Health, Shanti was stripped of more than \$2.7 million in housing contracts: once the largest AIDS housing agency in the United States, it now provides only practical and emotional support services to people with AIDS throughout San Francisco.

Paras

(Continued from page 22)

two points of the Code of Professional Standards of the Public Relations Society of America, the oldest, largest professional association in that field.

"We try to make it explicit and clear who is speaking and for whom we are speaking," said Philip Ryan, president of the New York chapter and openly gay. "We don't like phony tags, we don't like front organizations."

Round Two

The thousand-word news release trumpeting Paras' selection was accompanied by a highly unusual five pages of solicited "testimonials" from selected leaders. The package was curious for the number of omissions normally considered the package was curious for the number of omissions normally considered the package was curious for the number of omissions normally considered the package was curious for the p tained in such a document.

tained in such a document.

There was virtually no mention of personal data, such as where she was born (Fisher said Madison, Wisconsin; the Washington Blade cites Paras as saying Middletown, Connecticut), or even her age (41). No mention of her formal education, or that she drapped

even her age (47). No memori of her formal education, or that she dropped out of high school. It omits her long years of member-ship in Line of March, her sojourn to Cuba, or deportation from the Philippines.

Her principle identification, in the first line of the release, was as a San Francisco Health Commissioner, a political appointment to an advisory body that meets once a month and car-ries a modest honorarium. Her highest paying and most professionally responsible previous job, as deputy director at Shanti Project, was relegated to the final sentence of the document.

The "testimonials of support" from

various leaders seemed to fall into two categories.

The most effusive tended to come from those who had interlocking finanroll tilde with Paras. For example, Katz, head of the San Francisco AIDS office technically, reports to the Health Commission and Commissioner Paras. How free was he to speak objectively? Or Pat Christen, whose San Francisco AIDS Foundation seeks funding from that same body.

Many of the more prominent names signed on to a much blander statement pledging to work with the Task Force.
NGLTF spokesperson Beth Barrett said
they were "endorsing the selection of
Melinda Paras as executive director."
Several cosigners, including William

Waybourn, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, rejected that interpretation. He saw it simply as an open hand to the organization, not a commentary one way or the other on

Most prominently among the missing among those testifying to the worthiness of Paras were the national AIDS organizations: ACT UP, AIDS Action organizations. ACT OF, AIDS Action Council, National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA), National Minority AIDS Council, and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP). They simply were

not asked.
"I'm not surprised that they didn't target or focus on AIDS organizations because I've never known NGLTF to be a player on AIDS," said Alexander Robinson, president of NTFAP and Washington lobbyist on gay and AIDS

Washington lobbyist on gay and AIDS issues for the ACLU.

"I don't think it is significant that they chose someone who briefly worked in an AIDS organization," he explained, "I think they will continue in their same pattern of giving AIDS cursory attention."

That is "real disconcerting because the health challenge that our communication."

the health challenge that our communi-ty faces is clearly HIV disease," said NAPWA executive director Bill executive director Bill
"NGLTF has not made AIDS

Freeman. "NGLTF has not made AIDS any kind of a priority."

Paras does not seem likely to change that focus of the Task Force. In her interview with the Blade, "Paras cited AIDS as one of about 20 issues 'of enormous importance' to the gay movement which she believes NGLTF must address."

SAM Study

(Continued from page 22)

very complex, and knowledge is only one part of the equation," Buchbinder said. "We need to understand the reasons" why most gay and bisexual men at least occasionally have unsafe sex.

Even so, education and prevention pro-ams are vital in reversing the increase in HIV infection rates.

"There still needs to be vigilance about safe-sex counseling," said Kent Penley, project coordinator for the Denver part of the study, and research associate at the Denver Department of Public Health. "People can't

Department of Public Health. "People can't afford to relax. Those unsafe activities are still taking place."

"I would imagine that unless we do some innovative things to intervene, the trend will continue." Doetsch said. "If there are severe cutbacks for AIDS prevention programs, we won't be able to get the word out."

The study itself is being broadened beyond an exclusively gay and bisexual male study, to include women for the first time. The study also will increase the number of African-Americans and Latinos. Even with the changes, gay and bisexual men's sexual practices still will be monitored separately.

The original purpose of the study was to

The original purpose of the study was to obtain a group of men to study for a potential AIDS vaccine. Researchers are still,hoptial AIDS vaccine. Researchers are still,hop-ing to do such a study, if the federal govern-ment approves it, but they also want the SAM study to be like its predecessor, the MACS study: a look at gay and bisexual male sex practices over a number of years. Over time, the rate of HIV infection shown in the first 18 months of the study likely will degrees eightly Paplay predicts.

likely will decrease slightly, Penley predict-ed. For one thing, the riskiest men probably will become infected early on in the study. In addition, all the subjects report for interviews about their sexual behavior every six months, meaning that their awareness of their own sexual activity – and of the actions that prevent HIV infection – will grow, leading them to become safer about their sexual activities than they would have been.

David Olson is a reporter at Windy City

Ihe unionized work force of the San Francisco AIDSFoundation urges your continued support -financial, volunteer, and otherwise -- as we continue to improve our HIV services from the inside out. Happy Holidays.

Dem Bigwigs: Bring us The Head of Joycelyn Elders

by Paul Basken

WASHINGTON (UPI) WASHINGTION (UPI) —
Democratic Representative
Dave McCurdy of Oklahoma
acknowledged Friday, December 9 he and two Democratic
senators at a Tuesday White
House meeting had urged
President Clinton to fire Surgeon
General Joycelyn Elders. General Joycelyn Elders

McCurdy, the chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, told United Press International he received no commitment at the time from Clinton, and that he also was not aware then of the now-publi-

aware then of the now-publi-cized comments regarding mas-turbation that Elders had made the previous week in New York. "I was surprised that it came so quickly," McCurdy told UPI, "but I think the president acted appropriately, and I commend him for urging her resignation." McCurdy declined to specu-late on whether the administra-tion, in citing comments Elders

tion, in citing comments Elders made more than one week earlier in response to a posed question, might have been awaiting a new reason to justify her removal.

"I'm not going to speculate because we didn't discuss specific comments at that time," McCurdy said of the White House meeting Tuesday, which also involved Democratic Senators John Breaux of Louisiana and Sam Nunn of Georgia

raised concern" about Elders' past record of statements on such controversial issues as birth control, teenage pregnancy and the legalization of drugs, McCurdy said. "I think he's demonstrated

"I think he's demonstrated that he's going to act decisively to bring about change within the administration," said McCurdy, who met Clinton on Tuesday after sharply criticizing the president earlier in the day in a speech at the Democratic Leadership Council's annual

conference.
McCurdy had told the DLC. an association of conservative and centrist Democrats, that Clinton won election as a "moderate Democrat, a new Democrat, a DLC Democrat, but

Democrat, a DLC Democrat, out the governed as something else."

McCurdy, who lost last month to Republican James Inhofe in a bid to fill the Senate seat vagated by retiring Seat vacated by retiring Democratic Senator David Boren, blamed the widespread Democratic losses at least in part on an "administration that has pursued elements of a moderate and liberal accepted at the

has pursued elements of a moderate and liberal agenda at the same time, to the great confusion of the American people."

The White House said Friday that Clinton asked for and received the resignation of Elders after learning a news magazine was publishing comments she made about teaching masturbation as a less risky

form of sex.

Elders delivered a speech
December 1 in New York at
World AIDS Day and was asked
afterward whether she would promote masturbation as a safe alternative to risky sex.

"In regard to masturbation, I

"In regard to masturbation, I think that is something that is a part of human sexuality and a part of something that perhaps should be taught," Elders said in the transcript of the session provided by the White House.

"Dr. Elder's public statements reflecting differences with administration policy and

with administration policy and my own convictions have made it necessary for her to tender her resignation," Clinton said in a written statement.

written statement.

McCurdy said he and the senators suggested other personnel changes Tuesday to Clinton, but declined to identify them by name. "We were urging that there be changes made in the White House staff and the Cabinet, and they needed to be decisive, and

House staff and the Cabinet, and they needed to be decisive, and specifically mentioned Dr. Elders," McCurdy said.

"We did not at that meeting go into detail of comments or statements," McCurdy said. "It was my recommendation, and I think supported by the senators." think supported by the senators, that changes had to be made, and she was one of those recommended."

GOP on Elders: We Still Aren't Satisfied

by Mary Ann Akers

WASHINGTON (UPI) Republican women in the halls of Congress wasted no time in expressing their dislike of Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders after her resignation on Friday. "Great! What took her so long?" said Representative Marge Roukema of New Jersey. "Whether it was condoms in school or suggesting that we legalize drugs, I can't think of one constructive contribution she made."

Senator Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas, incoming chairman of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, called the resignation "necessary and

long overdue."

Kassebaum said she voted to confirm Elders because she believed in her ability to reach young people, but that Elders has only "engendered needless controversy." The senator expressed her concern in a letter the precident lest summer.

to the president last summer.

The men were at it too:
Representative John Boehner of Ohio, one of several lawmakers who called for Elders' resignation last year after she suggested legalizing drugs, issued a one-

regalizing drugs, issued a one-page, three-word statement: "It's about time."

Boehner told reporters he viewed Elders' departure as a "very positive development for American families," accused her of trying to put "condoms in the pockets of everyone in the community," and called her "an albatross around the neck of the Clinton administration.

"This is a good decision on the part of the president, and I'm sure he'll take this opportu-nity to appoint somebody whose walues are more in line with most Americans, particularly on the issue of legalizing drugs," said former marijuana experi-menter and House Speaker-elect

menter and House Speaker-elect Newt Gingrich, who officially assumes the speaker's post January 4, has in the past sin-gled out Elders as part of what he calls "the counterculture" perpetuated by the Clinton

administration.

The GOP lawmakers said they hoped Clinton's decision was more than a symbolic ges

ture to appease the new Republican order in Congress, as well as members of his own party, who told Clinton this week he has moved too far to the left.

the left.
Republican Representative
Bill Goodling of Pennsylvania,
incoming chairman of the
House Education and Labor
Committee, had no praise for
Clinton, expressing skepticism
about the president's apparent
effort to be more centrist.
"The president announced
this week that he was going to
be a centrist president," he said.
"Obviously the moves he's

"Obviously the moves he's made in the White House are an

attempt to convince the American people that is true.

"However, this is the same rhetoric he used when campaigning for office, and then he selected Cabinet members who did not reflect his rebustion."

did not reflect his rhetoric."

The White House said Elders' last day as the nation's chief medical officer would be December 31

December 31.

Kate Michelman, president
of the National Abortion and
Reproductive Rights Action
League, was quick to defend
Elders and criticize the incoming GOP Congress, saying the surgeon general has been "a forceful and courageous advo-cate for preventing unplanned pregnancies and making abor-

pregnancies and making abortion necessary.

"Some of her public comments made her a lightning rod for the radical right, but her strong advocacy of combating AIDS and reducing the high rate of teen pregnancy will be missed, especially as the new leadership of Congress takes a hard turn to the right," Michelman said.

David Condliffe, executive

director of the Drug Policy Foundation, issued a statement on behalf of the surgeon general, saying she "pulls no punches. Unfortunately, that attitude appears to be no longer welcome as the White House repositions itself for the Newt era.

"President Clinton knows what a tough, good woman he got rid of today," he said.
"Joycelyn Elders had the courage to say things that needed to be said."



Lawyer

(Continued from page 1)

official complaint, Witherspoon once represented Philip Causey, for whom he wrote a living trust and will when Causey was seriand will when causey was seri-ously ill and in the end stages of AIDS. The Philip Causey 1991 Living Trust named Mark Wilson, Causey's registered domestic partner, as beneficiary and gave him a life interest in the apartment the couple shared

but Causey owned.

Causey transferred the four-unit building into the trust, and the remainder interest of the trust was given to his brother James. In the event the building was sold, according to the trust's specifications, Wilson was to receive comparable or equivalent housing. The trust also directed that Wilson receive a cash gift of \$25,000 upon Causey's death. Both men were ill with AIDS when Witherspoon represented

Just nine days after the Philip Causey 1991 Living Trust was executed, Causey died of AIDS. According to Jones's com-

According to Jones's complaint, Witherspoon began to represent Causey's brother James as trustee of the estate shortly after Causey died.

At the time, Wilson was also very ill and had just completed a grueling four-month course of chemotherapy for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma of the mouth.

"Fire sale"

The lawsuit alleges that rather than honoring the wishes of his brother, James Causey decided to sell the building, decided to self the building, ordered Wilson to move, conducted a "fire sale" of the building — which had the effect of reducing the trust corpus by

(Continued on page 27

Elders

(Continued from page 1)

Clinton administration is mistaken if they believe that changing the window dressing will make their radi-cally anti-family proposals any more acceptable to the American people," said Gary Bauer, president of the Family Research Council.

Reaction from the lesbian and gay community was

reaction from the lesbian and gay community was overwhelmingly negative.

"This represents a setback in our efforts for an open and honest dialog about the AIDS epidemic and education to our young people on their sexual health issues," said Cornelius Baker, director of public policy with the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA). "It also represents that the President is not willing to defend a progressive agenda on not willing to defend a progressive agenda on

"The issue becomes, 'should children be taught about the range of sexual behavior?' And obviously the President is saying, 'no, children should not.' That, to me, is unacceptable."

"Elders is a loss to anyone concerned about rational public health policy," said Mario Cooper, president of the AIDS Action Council and political insider who managed the 1992 Democratic National Convention. "She is a medical deal with the control of the control ical doctor who has the real hands-on experience and she always spoke from that hands-on experi-

"In this country, that is the reality of too many teenagers getting pregnant, too many teenagers get-ting AIDS, and too many adults trying to cover every-

one's ears."

Clinton's sacrificing of Elders is sure to have a chilling effect elsewhere. Cooper observed, "If I were people like [Health and Human Services Secretary] Donna Shalala and [new AIDS czar] Patsy Fleming, I think I would feel a little colder.

"She was the only person in the administration that wasn't afraid to talk about sex and to talk about AIDS issues," said Steve Michael, with ACT UP Washington. He is preparing to challenge Clinton in 1996 Democratic primaries to raise the issue of AIDS. "It is war on lack of a sane AIDS policy."



Joycelyn Elders, former Surgeon General, fired by President Clinton.

Black humor and outrage interspersed online discussion of the firing.

"I tried masturbating once, but I never came," one writer attributed to the President.

"Clinton will probably clarify his position by rejecting teaching masturbation in school, but a moment of silent masturbation may be acceptable," wrote Bilet Tom. wrote BikerTom.

"All he [Clinton] has done is ruin his chances by turning off the people who would have voted for him

if he had shown more guts," said Azcandraz.

GFBarfield wrote: "If we sell our votes as cheaply this next election as we did to the Democrats in '92, we will continue, very sadly, to get exactly the kind of government we deserve."

GeoffDalTX was even more adamant: "I will vote for Adolph Hitler before I will vote for Clinton. It's better to have your enemy in office than to have someone who pretends to be your friend and then stabs you in the back."

CALIFORNIA NEWS

Greene

(Continued from page 1)

Because Al Murray of the district attorney's office initially offered an objection to Greene's officient an objection to cheefer's release to the family home, recommending instead that she be placed in a hospice, Gyemant put off her final decision on the matter until Friday, December 16.

But Dennis Collins, who called the *Bay Area Reporter* from the D.A.'s office to respond to queries about the exact reasons for the objections, said he was researching the mat-ter and indicated it was quite possible Smith would order the objections withdrawn.

objections withdrawn.
Collins indicated late
Tuesday that the district attorney's office had spoken to
Greene's mother and the district
attorney would be willing to do
"whatever is best for the family."

"Whatever is best for the family."
Moreover, Collins said Smith
was "very, very concerned
about her health and happiness."
The D.A.'s office could be
expected to do "what is best for
both Cynthia and her mother."
Greene was represented in

Greene was represented in the courtroom Tuesday by Attorney Allison Hardy of the prison law office. Subsequently, Hardy avoided public comment

on the matter.

Greene, 41, who is rapidly wasting away, was released from Chowchilla Prison to Merced Community Medical Center for a blood transfusion late last week according to late last week, according to information provided to the Bay Area Reporter by Miriam Berman of the ACT UP San Francisco Prison's Committee.

Berman, a member of the Coalition to Support Women

Prisoners at Chowchilla, initial-

ly called Murray's objections and recommendations on Tuesday "disgusting and horrible." She has since declined all further comment, for fear of jeopardizing Greene's chances on Friday.

Greene is unable to get out of bed and is extremely ill, Berman said in a preliminary interview. The information was confirmed by Judy Greenspan, also of the Coalition to Support Women's Prisoners at Chowchilla. "I just Prisoners at Chowchila. I Just pray there's no problem there," Greenspan said earlier in the week, before Murray's objections and Smith's subsequent commitment to help Greene.

The prisoner's devout Baptist mother, Ann Greene, said her daughter had received four pints daugnter had received four pints of blood and was unable to walk. However, she said, "She's doing a little better, thank God." She, too, was reluctant to say anything on the record after Tuesday's court session because she feared she might jeopardize

her daughter's case.
Ann Greene did express her ratitude to Gomez for taking his action, however belatedly, and said, "He signed, thank God, and I don't want to look back. I want to look forward."

The Coalition to Support Women Prisoners at Chowchilla maintains that the continued

maintains that the continued incarceration of dying prisoners is a waste of taxpayer money.

"Prisoners with AIDS need medical care and compassionate release, not wasteful, expensive release, not wasterul, expensive incarceration," Berman said at the end of October, when Greene's release became an issue. The coalition at that time challenged the state legislature to generate an early release policy for all prisoners who are dying. ▼



HIV Group Services Currently Being Offered:

Closed Groups Now Available:

HIV+ Anger/Stress Management Group-A closed, structured group for HIV+ gay and bisexual men. Contact Mark at ext. 149.

Women's HIV/Substance Abuse Group— A closed support group for lesbian/bisexual women with HIV. Contact Nan at ext. 177

Mixed Antibody Status Couples Group— A closed 8-week group for gay/bisexual men. Contact Mark at ext. 149.

HIV+ Support Group— A closed, ten-week support group for HIV+ gay/bisexual men. Contact Rob at ext. 199.

Multiple Loss Support Group

for HIV-Men— A closed, eight-week support group for HIV-gay/bisexual men. Contact Rob at ext. 199.

Dating and Relationships Group— A closed, eight-week support group for gay/bisexual men exploring dating and intimacy. Contact Rob at ext. 199.

General Stress Management GroupA closed, structured group for gay/bisexual men of any antibody status.
Contact Rob at ext. 199.

ARC/AIDS Group— A closed, eight-week support group for gay/bisexual men with ARC/AIDS. Contact Matt at ext. 208.

Drop-In Groups:

Weekly, open groups for gay/bisexual men-no intake-no fee-no registration.

HIV+ Multi-Issue Group-For men with HIV/AIDS and substance abuse/mental health concerns. Every Tuesday, 4-5:30p.m.

HIV+ Group-

A support group for information, education and sharing. Every Thursday, 6-7:30 p.m.

ARC/AIDS Group— A support group for information, education and sharing. Every Thursday, 5:30-7 p.m.

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OBITUARIES

Obituary Policy

Obituary Fortey

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Lester Brookins

March 1944 - December 1994

Lester Brookins

March 1944 - December 1994

Lester Brookins received a call he could not refuse December 8.

Compelled to attend an audience with Pope John XXI to discuss the ramifications of the Vatican II Council, he did just that. He left a multitude of friends and family in Michigan, Florida, Texas, Las Vegas, Reno, Sacramento and San Francisco.

Perhaps there are more places that Lester left loved ones; for wherever he was, he was loved.

We will gather at Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond Street, at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 17, for a Mass in his honor.

Contributions are being accepted at Project Open Hand Duboce Food Bank, 401 Duboce, to purchase a plaque to honor and remember Lester for the many years of volunteer service he gave. Contact Carole King at (415) 252-1931 for details. ▼

James Richard Schucker March 15, 1943 - Nov. 26, 1994

March 15, 1943 - Nov. 26, 1994 Jim died Nov. 26 of a heart attack in Dunlap, Calif. He worked for Pacific Bell for 30 years. Jim is survived by his life mate of 16 years, Michael Starr; mother, Nancy; brothers, Jan, Paul and Harry; sister, Mary Anne; and many friends. Jim, you touched everyone's heart, and I'll always remember your soul. I'll love and miss you always, so until we meet again. − Love, Michael ▼

Donn Frank Robbins

July 31, 1941 - Nov. 30, 1994



July 31, 1941 – Nov. 30, 1994

Donn Robbins died suddenly after a brief struggle with AIDS. His parters of 20 years, Cap Patterson, was with him at the end. He was comfortable at the time of death, mid-afternoon, at Davies Medical Center.

Donn was born

Donn was born and raised in Denver, Color-ado. After attend-

ado. After attending college, he worked with his family's franchise of the Mayflower Moving Company until relocating to San Francisco in 1974.

In San Francisco, he worked for

1974.

In San Francisco, he worked for Pacific Bell until his retirement on November 15, just two weeks before his death.

Donn was well-known throughout the community for his philanthropy, donating generously to charitable organizations and to individuals in need. He will be especially remembered for his vibrant energy and radiant smile, always friendly and ready for a conversation.

Donn is survived by his partner, Cap Patterson of San Francisco; his brother, John of Parker, Colorado; and countless loving friends.

There will be no service. Donations may be made to the AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park. ▼

Russell Moyer Aug. 23, 1954 - Oct. 28, 1994

Russell Moyer

Aug. 23, 1954 - Oct. 28, 1994

Our marvelous friend Russell died from AIDS-related complications in Los Angeles.

His gregarious personality and generous spirit, handsome looks and razor-sharp wit endeared Russell to many in his native New York and subsequent homes in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Russell embraced and country-western dancing were a few of his passions. Despite a demanding career in marketing for apparel manufacturers, Russell always found time to confort his troubled friends and discuss the meaning of life, truth and beauty. Russell and Jim Turner (whose death is acknowledged here this week as well) were best friends for over 20 years. They died within six days of each other. Their love conquered all.

Carl Robert (Bob) Abendroth

Feb. 1, 1948 - Dec. 3, 1994

After a long, courageous battle with AIDS, Bob passed away on a cold, rainy



After a long, courageous battle with AIDS, Bob passed away on a cold, rainy Saturday morning at the VA Hospital in SF.

Before retiring in 1991, Bob had been self-employed, specializing in advanced computer management. He distinguished with the computer of the computer

Maude.

Special thanks go to his Shanti volunteer, Urs Hofmann, and the supportive nursing staff at the VA who comforted Bob in his final months.

Bob asked that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the AIDS Bike-A-Thon or the Shanti Project in his name.

A private memorial celebration was held December 13.
Sleep well, big guy.

Wm. (Peter) Caldwell Aug. 12, 1955 - Nov. 20, 1994



Aug. 12, 1955 – Nov. 20, 1994
Peter came to San Francisco barean adult from North Carolina via
Florida in the free
and wild early
'70s. One of his
first jobs was at
the infamous Barracks on Folsom,
which was about
as wild and free
as it got. A few
years later many
will remember
the gangling

the gangling blond ensconced at Cliff's uttering such bon mots as "Exercise is for servents"

such bon mots as "Exercise is for servants."

Peter was maddening, cynical, funny and generous; he loved thrift shopping. Barbie & Ken, Morticia, long-stemmed roses without the flower and fames furniture.

On a friend's suggestion he went home to North Carolina about five years ago. However, he couldn't stand being away and returned to San Francisco a year ago, just as he became ill.

Peter received wonderful care from a patient staff at St. Mary's and generous assistance from the Lutheran Social Services Agency. Hopefully he is at peace.

William Thomas Radcliffe Kirkland

June 12, 1959 - Dec. 11, 1994



Radcliffe Kirkland
June 12, 1959 - Dec. 11, 1994
Bill departed this world peacefully on Sunday morning at 9:41 in the presence of his loving mother Judith and brother Chris. He had struggled with AIDS with strength and dignity. His spirit and stubborn determination will be warmly remembered by all of us who loved him.

Born in NYC, Bill was raised in Teaneck, N.J., and received a BA in journalism from Rutgers in 1983. He moved to LA in 1984, where he worked at TV station KCOP. He lived in LA with his lover Scott in a strong relationship that lasted seven years. Scott succumbed to AIDS in 1992. That year Bill moved to SF to start a new life in a new town. He made his mark here, surrounding himself with a circle of friends and a loving companion, Jeff.
Bill loved to entertain with dinners and cocktail parties, and he traveled extensively in Europe, Mexico, the Caribbean and Australia. Always athletic, Bill played tennis and worked on his well-developed body at the Muscle System.

Memorial services will be held at Sullivan's funeral home, 2254
Market Street, on Sunday, December 18, at 2 p.m.

In Loving Memory of our Best Friend Thomas W. Nutter Sept. 18, 1950 - Dec. 11, 1994 Lillian Georgantes Charles C. Leppers, III

Darryl F. Minnefield

Dec. 15, 1957 - Nov. 23, 1994

Darryl passed into the next world the early hours before into the next world hours before Thanks giving Day due to heart failure, after a long eight-year battle with HIV.

Born in Destroit, Mich., he spent his early years in Manchester, Conn., and later became a San Francisco

and later became a San Francisco resident of over 10 years. He spent his last month at home with his family in Connecticut.

A generous, giving and easygoing person, Darryl is survived by both his parents, three brothers, two sisters, numerous nephews and nieces, as well as many friends and co-workers. He will be dearly missed by them all. Blessings and thanks to the caregivers and all who gave support in his time of need. Memorial contributions to AIDS Emergency Fund or Project Open Hand would be greatly appreciated.

Antonio "Tony" Gagna II Sept. 4, 1957 - Dec. 3, 1994

On December 3, Tony took his final bow. As the curtain fell on the second act of his life, friends were



gathered and held hands to give our beloved friend his

hands to give our beloved fireind his last standing ovation. No one whoever met Tony could resist his infectious laughter or his dedicated enthusiasm for theatre. Born in Norfolk, Va., Tony moved with his family to California in 1958. He graduated from Vallejo High School in 1975, and he immediately went on to Bjorn's Academy, later working in the cosmetology field for 18 years. Tony retired this past summer from I. Magnin's hair salon when KS made it impossible to work any longer. Tony is survived by his sister, Gloria; father, Antonio I; stepmother, Lorraine; brother, Randy; niece, Bev; two great-nephews; a great-niece; and William 'Billy' Triplett of San Francisco.

A fund has been set up to purchase a "chair" with a name plate in Tony's memory at the Regional Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek. Donations may be sent to Contra Costa Music Theatre (CCMT)/Tony's Chair, P.O. Box 3147, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

Jim Turner March 13, 1950 - Nov. 3, 1994

"Mr. Fur" died of AIDS complica-tions in Los Angeles.



"Mr. Fur" died of AIDS complications in Los Angeles.

Loyal, loving, responsible and handsome in a furry way, Jim's zest for life drew him from New York to the West Coast. Although Mr. Fur's sense of humor made him the life of the party, his ability to see and speak the truth is what we loved most about him.

Jim retired from a lifelong career in the insurance industry when illness made its demands on his body. But true to his spirit, he provided daily moral support for his best friend, Russell Moyer. They died within six days of each other. Their love conquered all.

Cje Dixon

Cje Dixon

Jan. 15, 1948 - Dec. 1, 1994

Bom in Mobile, Ala., and a resident of San Francisco for a number of years, Cje passed away at his residence Dec. 1. He was preceded in death by his parents, Helen Elizabeth Dixon and Theadore Dixon.

Cje served in the Army from 1958 to 1972. He was employed at Charles Schwab for the past 14 years.

Cje leaves to cherish his memory his devoted cat, Taj; Robert (Carmen) Lommell; Lorraine (Paul) Alexander, John Redmond; and Terri L. Springer. Private services will be held. In lieu of flowers donations may be sent to Project Open Hand. Arrangements made by the Neptune Society of San Francisco. ▼

Michael R. Adkins Jan. 3, 1964 - Dec. 11, 1994



Michael R. Adkins

Jan. 3, 1964 – Dec. 11, 1994

Forever the strong, righteous fighter in health and in illness, Michael found his peace at 12:55

p.m. Sunday. I'm so grateful that we were able to meet his wishes to keep him at home, to have myself (his lover Bob), his mother Phyllis, his guardian angel Adrian and new-found reacher of peace Roby at his side as he entered his new world and his beloved cousin Tammie arriving in time for her good-byes. Keeping this promise to Mike has given me the peace I need to continue.

I wish to extend thanks to his friends and co-workers at King American Ambulance, Dr. Charles McDonald and the staff at California Pacific Medical Center and our team of visiting nurses, especially Martha, Laura, Joyce, Michael, Carol, Katherine and Mary Ellen. Special loving thanks to our friends Tom, Laura, Terri, Patrice and Chris, who were always there.

Michael is survived by two sisters in New Jersey and family up and down the East Coast. An open house to remember Michael will be held at our home on Friday, December 16, at 7:30 p.m. Please call (415) 589-5901 for further details.

Good-bye, Sweet Honey Man. ▼

Gary J. Robles

Gary J. Robles
June 1, 1960 - Dec. 4, 1994
Gary left us on Dec. 4 to be in a
better place; he was at home with his
family and
friends at his
side. Gary was a
very warm, lovable guy, always
outgoing and
eager to make
friends. He was
an inspiration to
other HIV-positive people
Gary was loved

around him.
Gary was loved by everyone who was fortunate enough to become part of his life, which was filled with music. His favorite gift to give was a homemade tape he spent hours creating. He was also an avid health enthusiast, resulting in a body anyone would be envious of.
Gary is survived by his mother, Angie; father, Ernest; sisters, Debi and Terry; brother, Ken; and count-less other relatives and friends. "Hey, Gary. Each of us has a special song that will always remind us of you."
Funeral arrangements were held December 8 at Oakhill Funeral Services in San Jose. Donations may be made in Gary's name to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness Ave., SF CA 94102. A memorial will be held on Dec. 18 at 208-B Lily St. For information call John or Ted at 252-9072.

Michel de la Roche Oct. 31, 1937 - Dec. 2, 1994



Oct. 31, 1937 - Dec. 2, 1994
Michel de la Roche died at home
the evening of Friday, December 2. Born in
France, Michel
was a graduate of
Cambridge University in England who moved
to the United
States in the late
1970s and became a naturalized citizen over
a decade ago.

came a naturalized citizen over a decade ago.
A longtime varied control to the La Roche Ltd., his own deluxe travel and tour planning company. As an inveterate traveler, he had close personal friends throughout the world. As a San Francisco leatherman and activist, he was an important member and officer of The 15 Association, and co-founder of MAST (Masters and Slaves Together).

A unique and special man, Michel will be widely and greatly missed. He is survived by an estranged biological family and an affectionate, gay family of choice, including Fred, his master and lover since 1986.

Michel's life and contributions to the community will be celebrated by friends on the patio of the Eagle on Saturday, December 17, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Tom Keightley Jan. 7, "1953" - Dec. 8, 1994



Hand's most senior, reliable volunteers.

Tom migrated here with a colony of friends from Chicago in the glory days of the late '70s. He enthusiastically embraced San Francisco, particularly Potrero Hill, as his home, doing everything and meeting everyone. He was a model friend, a model for Colt and a model employee for Westinghouse for many years.

Tommy joined a host of departed friends on Thursday, December 8.

During the days leading up to his death at Davies Medical Center, he was surrounded by a roomful of loving friends and his adopted San Francisco family. His father preceded him in death by only weeks in his native Hammond, Indiana. His mother and brother were with us at Tom's bedside over the Thanksgiving holiday.

There will be a gathering of

bedside over the Thanksgiving holiday.

There will be a gathering of friends on Tom's birthday, January 7, at 2 p.m. at the home of Bill DiFrancesco, 47 Harry Stairs. Please call 282-7373 or 986-7340 for details.

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Leonard George "Gino" Scavetti 1939-1994

ino passed peacefully at home on December 7, 1994. The definitve Puerto Rican-Italian "Latin from Manhattan," Gino was born in Greenwich Village and raised in The Bronx. He grew up in a building where musicians and performers lived and rehearsed on the roof. His childhood friend, Nicolas Dante, later wrote "A Chorus Live" and festioned the above and rehearsed on the roof. His childhood friend, Nicolas Dante, later wrote "A Chorus Line" and fashioned the character Paul after Gino. Always a dancer, he began performing at an early age and appeared regularly with Tito Puente at the world-famous Palladium Ballroom, as well as touring the United States. He took care of his mother until a stroke placed her in a nursing facility. Gino moved to San Francisco in 1980 and shared an apartment with his best friend Robert Bouvard. He met Barry Kinder in 1982 and they shared twelve wonderful years together. In San Francisco, Gino fulfilled one of his dreams, to sing, rather than dance. He and filled one of his dreams - to sing, rather than dance. He and Barry sang regularly at many local clubs. An avid Latin jazz Barry sang regularly at many local clubs. An avid Latin jazz enthusiast, he contributed to many San Francisco radio programs and appeared in the 1990 film "The Mambo Kings." He was loved by many and will be remembered always for his zest for life, childlike enthusiasm, flair, flawless appearance, presence, determination, radiant smile and "sparkle." The man had STYLE! He is survived by his brother John Turillo and niece Nidia Perez of New York, Jamilla Colon and Elba Collazo. Our heartfelt thanks to Dr. David Drennan, Project Open Hand Mustries Purch of Heaviste New York. Open Hand, Maurice Ruark of Hospice by the Bay, Raul Pereda, Mrs. Mary Kinder, Father Bob of St. Dominic's Church, and friends Robert Bouvard, Chris Moll, Barbara and Barry Jenichen, Meridy Volz, Rose Reeser, Chata Guitterez, Blaze and neighbors for all their help and support. Barry is taking him home for burial next to his mother in New York. A memorial tree is planned. Phone 668-7646 for details.

God's finger touched him and he slept

BAY AREA REPORTER—December 15, 1994—PAGE 27

COMMUNITY NEWS

Lawyer

(Continued from page 24)

almost \$100,000, equivalent to amost \$100,000, equivalent to more than a quarter of the origi-nal amount of the trust – and invested the sale proceeds in the stock market, which brought in a return of less than two percent

of the investment.

The suit also notes the trustee refused to pay the cash gift to Wilson for 13 months; failed to take any action to ascertain comparable or equivalent housing accommodations for the displaced man; and wrongfully and arbitrarily set up a monthly stipend that totaled only 57 percent of the replace-

ment housing costs.

The trustee also refused to pay his late brother's credit card bills and saddled Wilson with

According to the lawsuit, the trustee's actions were part of a "hidden agenda" to squeeze Wilson out of the estate plan

According to the lawsuit filed

by attorneys Daniel Murphy and Amanda Ebey, the trustee's defenses are "shocking in nature." "I have no comment on the

lawsuit because of pending liti-gation," Murphy said.

One of Causey's defenses, according to the suit, is his claim that he didn't realize that wilson was ill. Another is that a claim against the trust existed because of a vague family debt. The complaint filed with the bar charges that Witherspoon used

an actuarial life expectancy table for a healthy 36-year-old male as the basis to reduce trust payments for Wilson's housing, despite his imminent death, asserting that a reduction of benefits would extend the life of the payments.

According to a spokes-woman for the State Bar of California, once a complaint is received, the attorney is contacted and an investigator is assigned to the case.

assigned to the case.

If the investigator finds violations of state bar regulations, the case is assigned to the State Bar Court for judicial action.

The Best Policy

by Michael C. Botkin

zzie could tell bad news was in the air when she got back from work and found

from work and found her partner Harriet having tea in the kitchen with their upstairs neighbor, George.
"Why the long faces? You guys just find out about our exsurgeon general?" she asked.
Harriet delivered the news: "George got turned down today. They won't let him have the human growth hormone."

today. They won't let him have the human growth hormone."
"Why not?" Ozzie asked.
"Won't his doctor go for it'? It's obvious he needs it." Indeed, George not only had "the look"
- the distinctive hollow cheeks and stayed appearance of a - the distinctive notion cheeks and starved appearance of a PWA with advanced wasting syndrome - but he was getting perilously close to falling beneath the "critical mass" needed to stay alive. When body weight falls to about two-thirds of its "per mothy" lavel thirds of its "pre-morbid" level, it is generally a sign that (as the medical literature puts it)
"death is imminent."
"It's not my doctor – it's the
FDA," George explained.

FDA," George explained.
'They won't let the manufacthey won't let the manufac-turer give it to PWAs. They say they're worried about it being abused by weightlifters who want a legal steroid." He held up his matchstick arms. "Do I look like a renegade weightlifter? The only way to get it is to order it from Canada

at a cost of about a thousand dollars a month.

"I may be desperate; I'd have to be to drink this glop -"
(he gestured to a half-glass of shit-colored "food supplement" sitting in front of him) "but I'm not that rich. I don't know what to do."

Pushing hormones

Conversation was brought to a halt by the noisy entrance of Elroy, Ozzie's seven-year-old son, and Myron, George's domestic partner (and, although this fact was not widely publi-cized, Elroy's biological

"Hi, honey. How did your doctor's appointment go?" Harriet asked Elroy, who just pouted as he pulled off his jack-

"Doctor Hibbard told me I was too small!" he complained, and stamped angrily out of the

Myron sat at the table next to his partner. "He suggested that Elroy is short for his age and tried to convince me to give

and tried to convince me to give him human growth hormone."

Ozzie blinked and looked from Myron to George, and then after the departed Elroy. "You mean, the same stuff George needs?"

Myron shrugged. "Virtually the same stuff just a different

the same stuff, just a different manufacturer," he answered. "I wouldn't worry too much about Elroy, though. This whole

thing's a scam. I read about it in the paper. Doctors get a five percent kickback for every pre-scription of it they sell – and it costs about ten grand a year. So they push it hard even if kids

they push it hard even if kids don't really need it.

"Hibbard gave me a card for a specialist," he said, flourishing it as he spoke. "I know your mother pays for Dr. Hibbard and that he's a good pediatrician, but he's a little conservative for me." He crumpled the cardboard rectangle and tossed it toward the garbage can in the it toward the garbage can in the

Harriet picked up the crum-pled business card and smoothed it out. "Oh, he's a mossback all right, but some-times these issues have a way of balancing each other so that

Commentary

the difficulties all cancel out," she said, studying the card.

Ozzie, who recognized the crafty gleam that had come into her partner's eye, sighed, "Well, don't keep us in sus-pense, Har. Let us know what devious plot you're hatching in that twisted mind of yours."

"Let's just say that it's one that will make us happy, and Doctor Hibbard happy, and whoever is pushing hormones to short kids happy," she said. "The only one who might not be

happy is the insurance company.
Does anybody object to that?"
No one did. "Well then, let's get down to brass tacks." She picked up the phone and began dialing

Dr. Kickback

A week later Ozzie and Myron showed up at the specialist's office with Elroy in tow. The whole family was in what Harriet called "breeder drag." Ozzie fidgeted in the dress she had borrowed for the dress she had borrowed for the occasion from George's extensive collection. She hadn't worn one since her sister's wedding five years ago, and now she was remembering

now she was remembering exactly why. Butching up Myron had been almost as difficult as fem-ming down Ozzie. His old ming down Ozzle. His old Marine T-shirt (with the slogan: "Kill 'Em All – Let God Sort 'Em Out" on it) was a good start, but his long blond pony tail compromised the effect. Finally they'd wrapped it up as tight as they could and tucked it tight as they could and tucked it under a "No Fat Chicks" baseball hat.

The result was so convinc-ing that Ozzie was almost ashamed to be seen in public with him. She consoled herself that none of her friends was likely to recognize her in this outlandish costume. Only Elroy was dressed in his usual garb; however, the medical records his mother presented to the spe-cialist had been doctored, raising his age from seven to nine

The specialist bustled in and sat at his desk facing the parents and their sulky child. He beamed genially as he leafed through the file that lay open on his desk. "Pleased to meet you, Mr. and Mrs. Smith," he said. Ozzie flinched upon being addressed as "Mrs. Smith," but the doctor didn't notice. "I can

the doctor didn't notice. "I can see why Dr. Hibbard referred you. Poor Elroy here is clearly undersized for his age."

"I am not," Elroy said, but the specialist just chuckled patronizingly.

"Elroy's very upset about all this," Ozzie explained, playing her role as docile, suspicious hausfrau. "Is this treatment really necessary? Wasn't there some scandal in the papers about this product, Dr. Kickback?" Kickback?"

"Um, that's 'Kechbuch,'
Mrs. Smith," he corrected. "I
assure you my sole concern is
your child's well-being. This
product has been in use for
some time and is known to be completely safe. And consider the possible psychological effects on your son of being smaller than everyone else in his class at school.

Myron saw his cue and broke in. "You mean he might end up a sissy?" he asked. "We can't risk that. My son is going to grow up to be a man's man, if you know what I mean. Don't worry – I'll talk some sense into the old woman." He gently cuffed his "wife" as he finished

"Sometime she sounds just like some commie lesbo, huh?" He broke off as Ozzie scraped her heel along his instep. High heels were a major pain to walk in, but they did

have some advantages, she decided. "But Elroy is so sensi-tive about it, Dr. Kickback. Could we have the injections administered by our own doc-

Kechbuch frowned. "That's not our usual procedure. We need the records for our research, you see." In fact, he was worried about too many doctors horning in on the sweet

deal.

"Oh, we'll be glad to have our doctor fill out those forms and send them to you. Won't that be good enough?" she asked.

asked.

Kechbuch hesitated, greed held in check by fear. Then a loud-engined car squealed into the driveway, skidded noisily, and finally crashed loudly into some nearby immovable object. The doctor closed his object. The doctor closed his eyes and rubbed his temples. A moment later an outer door slammed and his intercom squawked. "Daddy, I've scratched the Jag again. What's the number for the body shop?"
"It's number one on the

the number for the body shop?"
"It's number one on the speed dialer, pumpkin," he answered wearily, holding down the "talk" button. "Daddy's busy now, sweetums. I'll talk to you later." He released the button and turned back to "the Smiths." "Where were we?" he asked.
"I was just telling you about my six sisters and their 26 children. Is it true that shortness is hereditary? If this stuff works

their. Is it the that shoulders is hereditary? If this stuff works for little Elroy, most of their sons will likely need it too, won't they?" she asked. "There's Albert and Byron and Carl and David ... and so on all the way up to Xenon, Yoda and Zeke. Should I refer them to you?

you?"

"That's an excellent idea,
Mrs. Smith," the doctor cheerfully replied. "Let me just write
out your son's prescription
right now. See my receptionist
about the insurance forms and
don't forget to send in that data I mentioned earlier." He scrib-bled out the scrip and passed it over. "I look forward to hearing from your sisters."

Research

Later that day a new clerk at FakeCare HMO studied a fax stapled to a purchase order. "What's this check to Dr. Kechbuch for five hundred dollars for?" he asked his supervi-

sor.
"Just write 'research' on the memo and send it off," she told

"Research? What kind of research does insurance pay

"You could say they're researching just how far a greedy doctor will stoop in pursuit of kickbacks. Or you could say they're researching just how dumb the FDA is. But if you're smart, you won't say anything at all, if you want to

get ahead in this business."

"You're the boss," he said.
"But it sure does look crooked."

"Honesty may be the best policy in theory," she said, "but in practice a little deception tends to pay out bigger benefits."
Ozzie and Harriet and George and Myron and Elroy, celebrating at home, couldn't have agreed with her more.



Thalidomide: A New Therapy for AIDS Wasting

by Matthew Sharp ACT UP Golden Gate Writers' Pool

Thalidomide, a mild sedative used in the late fifties, has again appeared in medical research as a possible therapy for AIDS. Despite the drug's notorious history and debilitating effects, it may redeem itself as a treatment for certain AIDS-related conditions, and perhaps for HIV itself. If the drug proved efficacious in AIDS, it could be a breakthrough in treatment, because it is inexpensive, fast-acting, and potentially readily available.

In the 1960s, doctors learned that even a small dose of thalidomide could cause horrific malformations of limbs. Thalidomide, a mild sedative used in the late fifties,

In the 1900s, doctors learned that even a small dose of thalidomide could cause horrific malformations of limbs and internal organs in fetuses of mothers who had taken the drug during pregnancy. Studies in the late fifties had shown contradictory results in studies of animal teratogenicity (fetal malformation). No one knew about human generally testal manufaction. No one stew about numan teratogenicity for sure; nevertheless, outbreaks of birth defects were reported. Thalidomide had been (and still is) prescribed in some countries for a complication of leprosy, and it was sold over the counter in Europe; but the FDA banned the drug in the U.S., preventing wide-

the FDA banned the drug in the U.S., preventing wide-spread birth defects here.

In the AIDS epidemic 30 years later, a study led by Dr.

Gilla Kaplan (at Rockefeller University in New York) tested thalidomide as an AIDS treatment, first in the test
tube, and then in about a dozen patients in New York City
and Thailand. The idea was to see if the drug could
reduce excessive levels of TNF (tumor necrosis factor), a
substance heing studied as a possible contributor to westsubstance being studied as a possible contributor to wasting, fevers, and Kaposi's sarcoma in AIDS, and which also may accelerate disease progression by stimulating HIV itself.

HIV itself.

Kaplan will not release the results in people, apparently not even to leading scientists, pending publication in a medical journal; but over a year ago, *Time* magazine reported that some of the patients dually diagnosed with tuberculosis and HIV "gained between 10 and 30 pounds and their fevers had disappeared" after four to six weeks of the drug. Kaplan has stated that the report was "preliminary," but did not deny the results. (*Time*, page 49,

July 12, 1993.) ACT UP Golden Gate considers it unconscionable that the rest of the information has been withheld so long, thereby delaying development of thalido-

mide.

Thalidomide has also shown good results in treating wasting syndrome in a small, placebo-controlled study in Mexico City, reported in October 1994 at the Infectious Diseases Society of America conference in Orlando, Florida. A total of 18 patients who had lost at least ten percent of their body weight completed this study. Nine patients received thalidomide for 12 weeks, and six of them gained weight; but of the picture who received alone. them gained weight; but of the nine who received place-bo, none gained weight. Numerous studies in the late 80s/early 90s showed

Numerous studies in the late 80s/early 90s showed that thalidomide is effective in eliminating certain aphthous ulcers of the mouth, esophagus, and stomach in the HIV-infected. It was also found to help in treatment of tuberculosis – probably by having a direct effect on the immune system. And a study by Wood and Proctor showed that 50 percent of patients with chronic graft vs. host disease (in persons who have received transplants) improved clinically when treated with thalidomide – which also suggested that the days about the setulistic feature of the studies of the studies of the setulistic feature of the studies of the studies of the studies of the setulistic feature of the studies o

improved clinically when treated with thalidomide—which also suggests that the drug should be studied for treatment of certain complications of HIV disease.

Recently ACT UP interviewed Sol Barer, president of Celgene, a New Jersey manufacturer of thalidomide. He said the small company is "eager and committed to developing thalidomide for AIDS." Celgene's trials of thalidomide for AIDS-related wasting are now accruing in six sites nationwide, including two Bay Area sites. This trial is an eight-week, placebo-controlled study of people with AIDS-related wasting. Two-thirds of the volunteers will receive thalidomide.

people with AIDS-related wasting. Two-thirds of the volunteers will receive thalidomide.

Volunteers will also be allowed to use AZT, ddl, ddC, d4T, and 3TC, and to use testosterone replacement therapy, another potential treatment for wasting.

According to Dr. Morris Schambelan, an endocrinologist at San Francisco General Hospital, which is a site for this trial, the first volunteers should receive the drug by mid-January. Call Wendy Padgett at SFGH, (415) 206-3319, or Claire Ginesi R.N., OCN at the Marin

County HIV Clinic, (415) 499-7377.

Thalidomide's notorious reputation – as well as the typical problems in AIDS drug research and development – may seriously delay its testing and availability. But, according to Dr. Kathy Mulligan, a researcher at San Francisco General Hospital, "Thalidomide is a safe and relatively benign drug." And the drug is old and well-researched; Barer said that people have used thalidomide for as long as 20 years with no side effects. And, in contrast to most AIDS drugs, it is affordable enough to have been widely used in developing countries for years.

Neuropathy can be a problem, especially at higher doses or in long-term therapy. But the biggest concern, of course, is making sure that the drug is not used by pregnant women. Barer said it is up to the physician writing the prescription to warn that the drug can cause birth defects – which, he noted, are also caused by other drugs such as Accutane.

Underground access to thalidomide is problematic. The FDA has threatened Healing Alternatives Foundation in San Francisco and the PWA Health Group in New York (both of which are AIDS buyer's clubs), telling them not to sell underground thalidomide, which can be obtained abroad. The FDA has allowed use of thalidomide for treatment of leprosy, and it has an emergency release program for AIDS-related aphthous ulcers; however, one cannot get the drug through this program for treating AIDS-related wasting. Donald Pohl from the FDA has replied to this issue by saying, "There isn't enough data to support treatment for wasting."

As people wait for trial data to come out of Rockefeller, meanwhile, both they and time waste away.

ACT UP/Golden Gate will support buyer's clubs if they decide to sell thalidomide, and come to their defense in case of FDA intrusion. ▼ Underground access to thalidomide is problematic.

ACT UP GOLDEN GATE meets every Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Mobilization Against AIDS, 584B Castro Street, in San Francisco. For more infor-mation, phone (415)-252-9200.



Photos: Phil Migliarese, Jr

Access Denied

ACT UP/Golden Gate members blocked entrances to Genentech Dec. 6 to protest that company's refusal to help create a compassionate drug access program for Her2/Neu, a possible life-extending drug treatment for breast cancer.



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HEALTH AND COMMUNITY

ACT UP Golden Gate: meets Tues. nights, 7:30pm at Mobilization Against AIDS, 584 Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

ACT UP San Francisco: determined to end the AIDS crisis thru direct action. Meets first & third Thursday every month, 7pm, 3rd floor, Women's Bidg., 3543 18th St. Write PO Box 14844, SF 94114 or call 677-7988.

AIDS Community Research Consortium conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Health Project: Individual psychotherapy services for people with HIV. No fee. Call for intake appt. 476-3902.

AIDS Memorial Grove: Volunteer workday Sat., Dec. 17, 9am-3pm. Middle & Bowling Green Dr., Golden Gate Park. 750-8340.

The Alternative Family Project: low-fee family counseling service available for lesbian, gay and bisexual families. Call 550-2621.

Bay Positives: Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Center for AIDS Services: Bingo every Saturday benefits the Center's programs: 6:45pm, Markus Square Superbingo, Jefferson & 3rd St., Oakland. (510) 655-3435.

Clinical Research Unit at UCSF seeks participants in a study involving AZT. Subjects must be HIV +, 18 yrs.+, CD4 count between 300-500. Pays \$80. Call 476-5914.

Coming out support group for men meets Tues., 6pm at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Men of all ages welcome, no fee. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, PhD. Info: 626-7000.

Continuum HIV Day Services: an adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Call 241-5500.

Deaf AIDS Center at UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assistive devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice)

East Bay HIV/AIDS 12 Step Support Group: Ongoing. Open to all with HIV who have experience with any 12 step program. Mon. eves., 6:15pm. Info: Paul (510) 465-4311.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services: Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs. 572-9702.

Gay Fathers Support Network of Santa Rosa meets first Sun. of every month, 7pm. Info: Mark (707) 523-6941.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic: Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7 pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7 pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Healing Alternatives Foundation maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

Healing Circle: Begun as an HIV support group, now a space of healing & growth for all men & women. Meets every Thurs. at The San Francisco Center for Living, 4054 18th St. 7-9 pm. 252-1666.

HIV/AIDS Services at Operation Concern: Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV- men, men with AIDS/ARC, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St.

HIV Testing: Blow Buddies and the AIDS Health Project present free, anonymous HIV testing, counseling and education. Fri., Dec. 16, 10pm-12:30am, 933 Harrison St., upstairs in a private space.

Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co.; 368-9989.

Immune Enhancement Project treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711

Irls Center: Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Kalser Permanente Hospice seeks volunteers to help with terminally ill patients. 9-week training begins Jan. 11. 4131 Geary Blvd. Call Richard McLoughlin, 202-3173.

Linea de Ambiente: Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM). 243-9534.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center: Primary health care for women by women, with emphasis on the health care needs of lesbians. Services include general medical care, gynecology, acupuncture, lesbian parenting, AIDS counseling & safe sex info (safe sex kits for women available). 1748 Market St near Valencia, SF. Suite 201. 565-7667.

The Mark Pope Career Counseling Center: a non-profit career counseling agency serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities of the Bay Area. 760 Market St., Suite 962. 296-8024.

MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group: Every Wed., 12:30-2:30pm, in the MCC chapel, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group offers ongoing support groups for the HIV community. Also for partners, friends and family. No fees. Call Jeff at 863-1581.

National Association of People With AIDS Fax is a fax-on-demand system which provides free and up-to-date information on HIV funding, grants, insurance, benefits, legal issues and more. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NAPWA FAX: 202-789-2222.

National Association for Visually Handicapped helps people with partial eyesight by supplying visual aids, a free service for SF residents who are HIV+ and losing eyesight. Call for appt.: 221-3201.

Native American AIDS Project: Support, resources and advocacy for Native Americans/ Alaskan Natives and their families affected by HIV. 1540 Market St., Suite 425. Info/intake: 522-2460.

Operation Concern: Coming out group for lesbians begins Jan. Fri. mornings, 10:30am. Info: 626-7000, x. 127.

People with disabilities who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender: Support group at Independent Living Resource Center, SF. Meets weekly, free. Info: Katie 863-0581.

Planetree Health Resource Center Up-to-date medical into to assist in making informed health choices. Extensive consumer health library, current medical lit clippings & health bookstore. Also support groups, health information service by mail. 2040 Webster St. 923-3680.

Pride & Prejudice: a welcoming group to queer youth meets every Tues., 6pm, at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St., Suite 201. Call Nicole at 565-7681.

Project Open Hand provides free home-delivered hot meals and free groceries to anyone with symptomatic HIV in the Bay Area. Various ethnic and restricted diets available, plus free nutritional counseling. No waiting list. Call 1-800-551-MEAL.

Qi Gong for People with HIV: \$1 per class. Mon., Wed. 11am; Thurs. 6pm. American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Community Clinic, 450 Connecticut St. Info: 282-9603.

Quan Yin Healing Arts Center Non-profit clinic provides affordable acupuncture & Chinese herbal therapies; treatment for people living with HIV, chronic hepatitis, PMS & other gynecological imbalances, Stop Smoking Clinic. Tues.-Fri., 1-6:30 pm, Sat. 9 am-3 pm. 861-4964.

Radical Women: Business mtg, 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

Richmond Area Multi-Services in SF: offers low fee counseling/ psychotherapy services to sexual

minorities, people with HIV/AIDS. Supportive therapeutic group for family/ loved ones of PWAs, English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean, Russian, Japanese. Mangso, 668-5955.

Safer Sex Education 933 Harrison is available for Safer Sex Education workshops and community outreach programs at no charge to responsible community groups. Info: write to Community HIV Prevention Program, 933 Harrison, SF 94107.

SF Gay & Lesbian Immigration and Asylum Rights Task Force meets first Thurs. of every month, 7pm, 870 Market St., Rm. 1213. Offers support groups for gay immigrants and their lovers, friends. Shannon, 392-6257.

San Mateo County AIDS Program: provides care for individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. Volunteer Resources Coordinator: 573-2488. Information: 573-2588.

Shanti Project's Latino Program: specifically serves Latino men, women, adolescents and children infected with and affected by HIV. Provides help with emotional peer counseling and practical support. For more information, call 864-CARE.

Stanford Support Group for Gay Men: Wed., 8pm at the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Community Center, Old Firehouse, Stanford Univ. Free. 725-4222.

Stop AIDS Meeting for men 50 & older, free, onetime, informal meeting to talk about safe sex. Info/reg: 621-7177.

Substance Abuse Counseling for Lesbians and Gay Men at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Operation Recovery provides affordable, effective treatment. Drop-in groups: for women, 7-8 pm Mondays; for men, 8-9 pm Thursdays. For information/ intake, call Jill, 626-7000 Ext. 199.

Sumt'n Ta Say: SF AIDS Foundation seeks contributions by 18-25 gay and bi guys with something to say about being young & queer in the age of AIDS. For a new youth HIV resource guide. Cash prizes. 985-5296.

The Transcendental Meditation Center has scholarships for low income people with HIV. Call Paul Brown at 931-1621.

UCSF AIDS Health Project offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 475.3002

Umoja Strategy Group: a coalition of black lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and heterosexual people, committed to countering divisive forces. Monthly strategy sessions: call (510) 286-7992 or write to USG c/o POB 4718, Berkeley, CA 94704-0719

Veterans Affairs Medical Center SF seeks volunteers to join its AIDS/ARC Volunteer Program. Volunteers visit patients in hospital and help in simple care tasks. Volunteers for AIDS Home Care and Phone Buddy Program are also needed. Contact Ronald Hunt, AIDS Volunteer Program Coordinator, VA Medical Center, 4150 Clement St., SF 94121, 750-2144.

We Care Bay Area provides emergency financial support of up to \$250 to individuals affected by AIDS and other serious illnesses. Requests must be made thru a Bay Area outreach agency. Info: 282-1911

Women's Action Coalition is an open alliance of women committed to direct action on issues affecting the rights of all women. WAC meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 pm (women only), 1360 Mission St., Suite 200. WAC Hotline: 255-6352.

Women's Cancer Resource Center: Support, resource & advocacy group for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & doctors. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in support groups, newsletter, educational programs, legal workshop & more. (510) 548-9272 or 548-WCRC. 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

Youth Empowerment Services Center provides an array of educational services, workshops, trainings to young people affected by HIV/AIDS. Info: call 487-5777.

Send Health and Community Listings to: Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Simpson

(Continued from page 12)

her in a horrifying web of drugs and raunchy gay sex. Friends say O.J. Simpson's Catholic wife was riddled with guilt as she plunged into a sordid lifestyle filled with wild parties and lessing the same of the

plunged into a sordid lifestyle filled with wild parties and lesbian flings – the first with kiss-and-tell author Faye Resnick.

"Faye wasn't her only woman,' a friend reveals. 'Nic had two other women and was terrified because she started to enjoy these encounters. She still liked men, but found she was becoming more attracted to women. Nic was raised Catholic and believed that drinking, drug-taking and lesbianism are against God. Eventually she couldn't stand the fact that she was breaking every law in the Bible. She was convinced that unless she changed her lifestyle, she was going straight to unless she changed her lifestyle, she was going straight to hell."

Reportedly Nicole told Hollywood psychic John Cohan, whom the *Examiner* identifies as "one of the last people the tormented beauty confided in before she was murdered," that to the tended beauty confided in before she was murdered," that she was going to the Reverend Dr. Robert Schuller of Crystal Cathedral fame, for help under an assumed name. "Cohan says Nicole also had glowing things to say about Schuller. She believed he had the power to turn her into a reborn Christian," the tabloid says. "He builds my feelings of self-worth and self-esteem. His gift of love and grace has eased my pain."

worth and self-esteem. His gift of love and grace has eased my pain."

Michael Nason, a spokesperson for Schuller, would neither confirm nor deny whether Nicole Brown Simpson had ever been counseled by the famous minister, was a part of the congregation, or attended church services. "We would never, ever disclose or discuss who is or who isn't receiving counseling," Nason said in a November 29 phone interview.

However, a church staffer who asked not to be identified later said that although many staffers were familiar with the Examiner story, no one at the Cathedral knew anything about Simpson's alleged counseling sessions. The staffer also pointed out that if Simpson used the fake name of "Susan" as indicated in the story, then she might have passed unnoticed. cated in the story, then she might have passed unnoticed.

Besides, the staffer said, she wasn't really famous or easily recognizable until after the murder, so she might have been involved with group counseling sessions and no one would know since group sessions are anonymous like Alcoholics Anonymous. The staffer could not say if Schuller led those resessions.

Although Nason could not specifically talk about any pos-sible link between Schuller and Simpson, or how the minister would have counseled Simpson regarding her supposed les-bian affairs, he did want to convey that neither Schuller nor anyone connected with the Crystal Cathedral is homophobic - as long as gays are willing to take the "sex" out of "homo-sexuality."

"We do not condone active homosexuality. We understand the problems people face at various times with it. We welcome those who are abstinent from sexual contact with members of the same sex," Nason says, adding that Schuller counsels from his own personal beliefs both after 40 years as a minister and his scriptural beliefs. "But he is not homophobic. You would never find the doctor using the pulpit for political or social agendas. I think that's why so many people come to trust and respect him. He's trying to deal with self-esteem and self-worth."

setr-worm.

Schuller would never reject anyone who thought homosexuality was natural. And, Nason says, he would "never try to turn anyone into a reborn Christian – he would love it if it were to occur – but he doesn't want to put notches in his gun to see how many people he can convert.
"He leaves that up to others."

"He leaves that up to others."

As a kind of personal testimony to the non-homophobic atmosphere at the Crystal Cathedral, Nason told of a minister on staff whose late-20s gay son died of AIDS. "It was one of the finest moments on the ministers' staff. The ministers came together to help support and give hope to their fellow minister during the death and dying period. It drew a lot of people together in the congregation. It impacted us all very personally," Nason told the B.A.R. "I do know that when you experience someone who have died of AIDS, it transcends politics and ence someone who has died of AIDS it transcends politics and social agendas." ▼

Don't Miss This Lottery!

by Dennis Conkin

application deadline for Section 8 Housing vouchers, available for People With AIDS and other disabili-

Applications are available at dropoff points in the Mission, Tenderloin, Bay View Hunters Point, and at the Health Department's AIDS Office or The San Francisco AIDS Foundation, both of which are located at 25 Van Ness Avenue.

The vouchers allow low-income

disabled residents to receive federally subsidized housing at sites through-out the city. "Low-income" is defined as a single resident with an income of under \$20,900 for federal housing voucher purposes.

For more information contact the San Francisco AIDS Foundation at (415) 864-5855 or the AIDS Office at (415) 554-9000. V

Technique May Reduce **Breast Biopsies**

by Larry Schuster, UPI Science and Technology

An imaging technique that lights up breast cancers may drastically reduce the number of fruitless biopsies following suspicious mammogram results, according California researcher.

A preliminary study of the technique, led by a Harbor-UCLA Medical Center procedure may reduce by at least 50 percent the number of breast biopsies that are performed searching for cancer.

formed searching for cancer.

Annual savings in the United
States could be an estimated
\$150 million, if larger studies
bear out the early results, said
the researcher, Dr. Iraj
Khalkahali, chief of the medical
center's breast imaging section
and director of outpatient radiology services in Torrance,
California. ology ser California.

A harmless amount of a radioactive isotope, known as a tracer – approved for the detection of coronary artery disease – is injected in the arm. The tracer accumulates in cancer cells, causing them to light up during the imaging process called nuclear medicine breast imag-

The cost of a typical breast biopsy is \$3,000 to \$5,000 per patient, compared to \$600 for the test.

Breast cancer is assuming epidemic proportions in the les bian community.

CLASSIFEDS



HIV/AIDS HOUSING ASSISTANCEAVAILABLE

Applications are being accepted from individuals and families for federally funded HIV/AIDS-SPECIFIC housing programs, administered by either the Department of Publis Health's AIDS Office, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency's Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS program (HOPWA), or the

rrent and future federally funded HIV/AIDS specific housing programs include the fol-

lowing:
1) client and tenant-based rental subsidies; 2) scattered side subsidized housing units; 3) residential care facilities; and 4) the HOPWA rental subsidy program. The level of supportive services provided varies by individual housing provider.

HIV/AIDS HOUSING COORDINATED THROUGH CHIPS

The San Francisco Department of Public Health's AIDS Office has developed the Certralized Housing Information and Placement Services (CHIPS) system to coordinate a single entry point and waiting list for placements into federally funded HIV/AIDS hous-ing programs in San Francisco. Housing programs will utilize the CHIPS system for refer-rals, placements, and waiting list management.

Eligibility for CHIPS Initial Enrollment:

Qualify as "low income" as defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 Have a diagnosis of a) HIV POSITIVE. b) disabling HIV or c) AIDS.

Applicants who receive referrals for placements through the CHIPS system for HIV/AIDS housing must also meet the specific program and/or occupancy requirements of the housing provider.

The CHIPS Initial Enrollment will be held for five days: Dec. 12, 1994 - Dec. 16, 1994, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

THE CHIPS INITIAL ENROLLMENT IS NOT A FIRST- COME, FIRST-SERVE PROCESS. SELECTION WILL OCCUR BY LOTTERY.

APPLICANTS CAN APPLY IN THREE WAYS:

1) MAIL IN applications to CHIPS INITIAL ENROLLMENT, P.O. Box 420386, S.F., CA 94142-0386. Applications must be postmarked by Friday, Dec. 16, 1994. Applications are available from Nov. 21, 1994 through Dec. 16, 1994 at the Department of Public Health's AIDS Office at 25 Van Ness Ave., 5th Floor, and from most AIDS housing service providers. If you want an application mailed directly to you, leave your name and address at (415) 749-2596.

providers: 11 you want of the control of the contro

San Francisco Housing Authorlty 440 Turk Street (at Hyde) San Francisco, CA From 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. M-F Bus Lines = 19 and 31

MISSION/CASTRO DIST:

Dolores Street Community Services 938 Valencia St. (at Liberty) San Francisco, CA From 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. M-F Bus Lines = 25, 14, and 49

BAYVIEW/HUNTERS POINT:

Bayview Hunters Point Foundation AIDS Services 5815 Third Street (at Carroll) San Francisco, CA From 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. M-F Bus Lines = 15 (#29 within 2 blocks)

HAIGHT/GOLDEN GATE PARK:

St. Mary's Clinic 2235 Hayes and Shrader San Francisco, CA From 9:00 a.m. to Noon and again From 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. M-F Bus Lines = 21 and 5

APPLY IN PERSON: Intake workers will be available ONLY on the four days of 12, 1994 through Dec. 15, 1994 at the following intake sites on the dates/times list-

SION/CASTRO DISTRICT: Dolores Street Community Center 938 Valencia (at Liberty) San Factoria (Control of the Control San Factoria (Control of the Control of the Control Mon. 12/12/94 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon Most Interest (2/13/94 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Bus Lines = 25 and 1:0 and 49 BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT:
Bayview Hunters Point AIDS Services
5916 Third Street (at Carroll)
San Francisco, CA
DATES/TIMES:
Mon. 12/12/94 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Tues. 12/13/94 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon
Bus Lines = 15, (#29 within 2 blocks)

Iues. 12/13/94 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon Bus Lines = 15, (#29 within 2 bitoks)
TENDERLOIN DISTRICT:
Dorothy Day Community
54 McAllister Street (at Leavenworth)
53n Francisco, CA
DATES/TIMES:
Bus Lines = 5 and Muni/Bart Civic Center Si
PARK MERCED/SFSU:
Temple United Methodist Church
Temple United Methodist Church
(Accessible entry on Beverly Street)
San Francisco, CA
DATES/TIMES:
Wed. 12/14/94 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
DATES/TIMES:
Wed. 12/14/94 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Thurs. 12/15/94 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon Bus Lines = M and 28

All CHIPS Initial Enrollment Intake sites are wheelchair accessible and located on major transportation lines. Service providers are encouraged to assist their clients in completing the Initial Enrollment entry form.

Hearing impaired people may use the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929. *Non-English speaking applicants are requested to obtain interpreters to translate for them (when possible) or to apply in-person to receive assistance in completing the enrollment form at the CHIPS Initial Enrollment intake sites.

All applications received during the Initial Enrollment will enter a HUD approved determine the order of the waiting list. Applicants will be notified by mail of the number by January 31, 1995. Applicants will be scheduled for a comprehensiv and assessment in the order of their number on the waiting list.

nd assessment in the order of their number on the waiting list.

pproximately 250-350 rental subsidies are available through the HOPWA RENTAL SUBIDV program. Eligibility for this program and all other HOPWA funded programs is ONLY

r persons who meet the following criteria:

1) Have disabling HIV/AIDS

2) Qualify as "very low income" as defined by HUD as having 50% or less of
the median income of San Francisco which translates to the following annual incomes for 1994:

One Person: \$20,500

Two Persons: \$23,400

Three Persons: \$23,400

Four Persons: \$29,250

No minimum income is required.

NOTE: The following information will be made available later in the application process:

A complete list of participating programs and available units/facility beds;
 Definitions of "disabling HIV", "FAMILY", and "San Francisco residency status"
 A list of eligibility documentation required later during the application process.

All applicants will be entered through a HUD approved lottery process to determine the order of the CHIPS waiting list. HOPWA rental subsidies will be awarded to approximately the first 250-350 eligible persons on the waiting list who have requested subsidies. Housing advocacy and assistance to locate available apartments for applicants will be provided through this process.

YOU ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY DURING THIS 5 DAY CHIPS INITIAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD BECAUSE ONLY PERSONS WHO HAVE APPLIED BY DECEMBER 16, 1994, 5:00 P.M. WILL ENTER THE LOTTERY PROCESS; HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO APPLY DURING THE 5 DAY PERIOD, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO APPLY IN THE FUTURE AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 1995. CALL 749-2596 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE SAN FRANCISCO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, THE SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, AND THE SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING AUTHORITY DO NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY PERSON BECAUSE OF AGE, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, FAMILIAL STATUS OR DISABILITY.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITICIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 191292 STATEMENT FILE NO. 191292
The following person is doing business as GLEN PARK BOOKS, INC. 2788 Diamond St. San Francisco, CA 94131 GLEN PARK BOOKS INC. CALIFORNIA, 2788 Diamond St., San Francisco, CA 94131 Registrant commenced business under the above fictitucs business name on the date INA This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed PATRICIA & CULL, Pres This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 18, 1994.

December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994

FICTITICIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 191427 STALEMENT FILE NO. 191427
The following persons are doing business as HOLLY PARK FAMILY HOME, 321 Holly PARK Circle, San Francisco, CA 94110. CONCHITA R. BERRY & RAMON BERRY, 321 Holly PARK Circle, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrants commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 28, 1994. This business is nondurated by a husband & with subsancts with the conducted by a husband & with the conducted by a hus ber 15, 22, 29 1994, January 5, 1995

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 965304

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANKISCO, in the matter of the application of RICKY LEE TREADWAY, for change of name. The application of RICKY LEE TREADWAY, for change of name, having been filled in Court change of name, and proper filled in Court change of name should not be granted it is further ordered that a copy of the court change of name should not be granted it is further ordered that a copy of the court change of name should not be granted it is further ordered that a copy of EIE/ORTER, and the state of the court of

FICTITICIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 191112 STATEMENT PILE NO. 19112

The following person is doing business as DIXIE AND LUCY, 167 Noe St., San Francisco, CA 94114: ANN BRUNETTA 167 Noe St., San Francisco, CA 94114: ANN BRUNETTA 167 Noe St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant commenced business under the above fictifious business name on the date July 15, 1994. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ANN BRUNETTA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 9, 1994. November 17, 23, December 1, 8, 1994

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BAY AREA REPORTER

ENTERTAINME

PEOPLE AND PERSONALS

Matlock Takes Lessons From Lea; NYPD Queers



by Alan Frutkin

ou know queers have arrived on TV when comic Lea DeLaria guest stars as a wisecracking, pasta-loving police detective on Andy Griffith's crime series Matlock (ABC, Thursdays, 9-10 p.m.). That's right, our beloved dyke is crossing

(Continued on page 46)



Death On Heels 2 at Luna Sea

The Unknown **Femme**

hile nobody's managed to come up with a satisfying defi-nition of femme, many lesbians relate to the concept, viscerally. These determined-to-be self-determining femmes are currently remaking the genre onstage through song, dance, poetry and sheer physical pres-ence. You can witness their coming to femme power in Death on Heels 2: The Femmes Return at Luna

Sea.

No two shows are alike. The line-up varies through-out the two-week run, but judging from last Saturday night's sampling, what night's sampling, what works best is what rubs the stereotypical cat's fur the

(Continued on page 43)

Screaming Women And the Dykes Who Love Them



Diamanda Galas and John Paul Jones

Diamanda Galas & John Paul Jones, Jale, Echobelly and L7

by Adrian Roberts

f screaming has become an accepted form of vocal expression, then Diamanda Galas is the unchallenged queen of squawk. Over the past unchallenged queen of squawk. Over the past decade, she's carved a special niche for herself among the musical avant-garde by using her ear-splitting shriek to full advantage. Indeed, it was that infamous full-throated roar that sent her hurtling into the international spotlight in the late '80s when Galas used it unremittingly in her harrowing masterpiece The Plague Mass, a musical response to her brother's 1986 death from AIDS.

By creating music that might best be

(Continued on page 46)



Participants in Death



PORN

Porn King Mangin's **Love Letter** to Rockland

page 47



BOOKS

Feinberg's 'Queer and Loathing' Reviewed

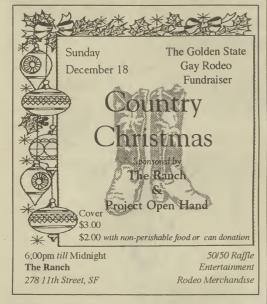
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SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS





Try BarTalk Tonight!



by Polly Popular and Aiva Nidnacs

t's Just Another Daytime
Talk Show: Rolonda's
recent episode on "Fashion
Queens" presented a fairly
novel twist (they seem to do pretty much anything these days on
talk shows, so we're becoming
jaded). Viewers were treated to
an hour-long crossdressing fashion show featuring such models
as Miss Understood, Kabuki
Star Shine, Hedda Lettuce and
New York public access show
host Mermaida. All this mainstream acceptance finds us perversely nostalgic for the "Closet
Queens" of yesteryear.

he Utah Queer Film Festival?: Variety's announcement of the lucky participants in the upcoming Sundance Film Festival includes a nice long list of queer titles. Oddly slighting the gay angle, writer Todd McCarthy jabs at Postcards From America director Steve McClean, suggesting that the film (which was sneak previewed at the Lesbian & Gay Film Fest here last June) only "nabbed a slot in the interest of diversity." Works by Bay Area queer filmmakers playing in and out of competition include: Deborah Hoffman's Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter, Marlon Riggs' posthumously released Black Is... Black Ain't and Tom di Maria and Jane Wagner's Tom's Flesh. Other queer titles include: Bruce LaBruce's Super 8 1/2, Gregg Araki's The Doom Generation, Tomas



Martha Raye



La Crawford



Tennessee Williams

Gutierrez Alea's Strawberry and Chocolate, Todd Haynes' Safe, Michelle Parkerson's long-awaited A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde, and Barry Shils' drag-queen doc, Wigstock.

an Francisco Loves You, So Don't Ever Leave Us Again: Justin Bond is back from New York and boy are we happy. Since we never got around to catching the Kiki & Herb Show last year, we thank our lucky stars that we've been given another chance this year. Look for us in the front row at Eichelberger's every Friday and Saturday at 11 p.m. (yes, we're big fans). We'll be the pair requesting Kiki's gut-wrenching rendition of Hole's "Miss World."

t's All in a Name: Why did Miramax film's Harvey Weinstein change the name of Robert Altman's forthcoming film from the deliciously French Pret-A-Porter to its less attractive English equivalent, Ready to Wear? The L.A. Times reported last week that the change was made when Weinstein asked several members of his mother's mahjong club if they knew what Pret-A-Porter means. When the entire group responded in the negative, Weinstein pulled all the posters and press materials and had them refitted with the bland new title. Who knew a bunch of dowdy mahjongers could wield so much power? Ready to Wear, starring a cast of thousands, opens Christmas day.

ew Adventures in Channel Surfing: We haven't seen such a boon in queerish music videos since Mom and Dad first got cable in the early '80s and we spent the better part of our days in the basement waiting for Martha Quinn to play that one Culture Club song. Now we flip between MTV and VH-1 and see the homophobic (but visibly lesbian) Melissa Etheridge hit "I'm the Only One"; Aerosmith's Times Squareripoff, "Crazy"; Veruca Salt's kick-ass dykey Buzz Clip "The Seether"; Michael Stipe being so cute in R.E.M.'s "What's the Frequency Kenneth?" and Stone Temple Pilots' "Interstate Love Song." (The lead singer of this group, who sports a bright pink feather jacket and black fingernail polish in the new video, once explained in an MTV interview how he confronted a stage-crasher by French kissing

ruising Tips for Nonsmokers: "The Baron: How about a match? Kilroy: Where's your ciga-

The Baron [gently and sweetly]: Oh, I don't smoke. I

just wanted to see your eyes more clearly."

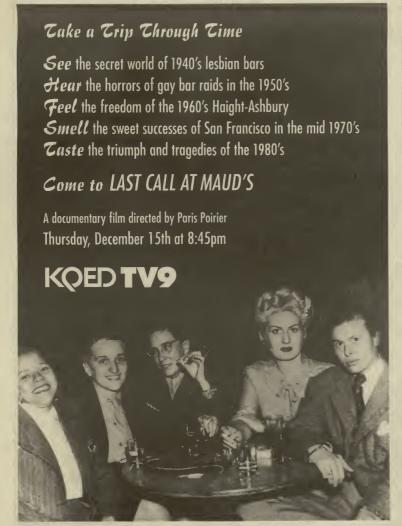
Nobody writes dialogue like Tennessee Williams (the above exchange is from Camino Real), and nobody was looking forward to the PBS documentary about his life, Tennessee Williams: Orpheus of the American Stage, more than we were. Unfortunately, scheduling conflicts at our local PBS station means San Franciscans won't see the doc until February.

dd Crawford Couples:
1) Richard Gere and
Cindy Crawford are
getting a divorce, or
maybe not. What can we say? 2)
The Estate of Martha Raye,
whom we fondly recall for her
Polident commercials and for
her role as the evil old witch (the
name is on the tip of our tongue)
on our favorite '70s TV show,
The Boogaloos, is selling the
screen rights to her life story
(including the details of her
affair with Joan Crawford).
We're already on the edge of our
seats. The dream cast for this
film: Bette Midler and Faye

yke-Diving: Lesbo celebs galore descended on Muffdive's last night at The Top. Spotted bellying-up to the bar were super-comic Lea DeLaria (of Mallock fame) and neofemme/Go Fish star Guin Turner and director Rose Troche. The Stud will now host Muffdive (just for girls) on Saturdays. Other regular suspects at the Muff include the fantastically coifed and famously pomo (tho' we think het) writer Kathy Acker (off-accompanied by High Risk publisher Amy Scholder), Paris Is Burning director Jennie Livingston, Bearded Lady dyke-cafe proprietor and mostworshipped butch Harriet Poon (is that really your name?) and pretty much every cute dyke in the city. Where else would you go on a Saturday night?

ven If We're Not Included in the Name of the Damn March: With six out of seven supervisors definitely supporting the measure, compelling testimony was given recently at the last in a series of public hearings about adding transgender to the city's anti-discrimination legislation. A range of speakers addressed the supes that included multimedia artiste Jordy Jones, FTM President James Green, SFPD Sergeant Stephen Thorne and, from the mayor's office. Shelly Salieri.

o, What's Your Point?:
Lastly, if you've ever wondered why the first letter of every paragraph of Out There is always set in super-large type, why don't you put them all together and find out. ▼



PAGE 38—BAY AREA REPORTER—December 15, 1994

Susan Hawthorne Has One Foot on Earth, the Other in the Cosmos

The Big Spin

thor and publisher Susan Hawthorne arrived for an interarrived for an interview the other day, I was surprised by her chipper demeanor and fiery blue eyes. This was the woman who wrote a novel about ancient myth, modern physics, epilepsy, and a journey through the desert? I guess I expected a somber woman who looked like she understood the inner workings of black holes.

She declined the mint tea I offered, explaining she'd just

offered, explaining she'd just had a coffee. A quick look at the work Hawthorne has accomplished in recent years affirms that this is a hardworking, deepthat this is a hardworking, deep-thinking caffeinated woman. Hawthorne's press, Spinifex, which she owns with Renate Klein, has been in business only since 1991, yet it already boasts a list of 36 published titles. She also has authored or edited eight books in the last 10 years

books in the last 10 years.

Hawthorne's novel, The Falling Woman (Spinifex), has Falling Woman (Spinitex), has an enormously wide scope. When I first picked up the book I was skeptical, even frightened, of its themes. The book jacket announces, "The Falling Woman memorably dramatizes a desert journey in which two women confront ancient and modern myths ranging from the modern myths ranging from the Garden of Eden to the mystique of epilepsy to the mysteries of the universe itself."

Wow, I thought. This was going to be some read.

Cosmological ring

Cosmological ring
The story is about two lovers,
Estella (whose name shifts to
Stella and Estelle throughout the
book) and Olga, who journey
across the Australian desert. A
number of physical challenges
confront the two women and
make their story interesting.
Their truck gets stuck in sand,
Estella nearly drowns, they
climb great rocky outcroppings, climb great rocky outcroppings, and they encounter snakes. But the real story follows from the revelations of their personal lives, particularly in Estella's deepening understanding of her epilepsy and its meaning in her

Though Hawthorne's prose threatens to gallop off every



Susan Hawthorne

page, perhaps because of the sheer grandness of her thinking, she manages, nevertheless, to make surprisingly uncomplicated connections among her themes. Primarily, it's the simplicity of this journey that focuses the tale. Because the story is grounded in a naturalstory is grounded in a natural-ist's observations of the world – the desert's flora, fauna, and geology – the reader never feels lost amid the heavy ideas. Even the references to mythology and physics are accessible. The physics are accessible. The reader can make connections or not; the story is absorbing either

way.

Hawthorne never reveals
why the two women are journeying, nor where they are
going, "What bothers me about traditional myth stories," Hawthorne commented, "is that you have to do it alone, overcome on your own. There are some traditional Aboriginal stories that talk about sisters jourries that talk about sisters jour-neying across the land. I wanted a journey that wasn't an alone journey. One where two women shared the experience and grew through it. The purpose is that they are journeying towards the center – physically to the center

of Australia and emotionally to the center.'

Though this is a dreamy book, it avoids New Age simplifications. The rich backdrop of scientific information keeps the tone contemporary and prevents the reader from drawing easy answers.

I couldn't help asking Hawthorne if she sat around reading physics texts for plea-sure. She admitted that she did. She has also spent a number of years reading myths from many cultures. "I have a fascination with the intersection between myth and physics," said Hawthorne. "When I read myths, I find things reflected in contemporary physics. The metaphor of the black hole is a very apt one in terms of the experience of epilepsy."

Multiple meanings
Susan Hawthorne and Renate Susan Hawthorne and Renate Klein's press, Spinifex, published *The Falling Woman*. Hawthorne defines Spinifex as a radical feminist publishing house. Half to two-thirds of its authors are Australian and the rest come from the U.S., Canada, India, and the Pacific. There are no simple answers for Hawthorne, who has an affinity for multiple meanings. When I asked what Spinifex meant, she smiled apologetically and answered, "Spinifex is Australian for good books." Then she got down to her real answer. "Spinifex is a desert grass that holds the earth together. And it's fairly prickly." She thought a minute, and added, "The word also conjures spinning and spinsters, though those associations were acci-There are no simple answers those associations were accidental."

I had the feeling she could have spun a dozen more answers to what Spinifex meant. The company recently has published her *The Spinifex Quiz Book: A Book of Women's Answers*, a fun book that sets the record straight on certain issues in women's lives and history, as well as Australia for Women, a travel and culture book she co-

edited with Renate Klein.

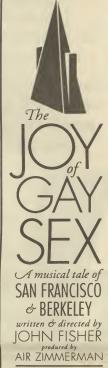
If spinifex is a prickly desert grass that holds the earth together, then Spinifex is a press that perfectly suits Hawthorne's work. *The Falling Woman* is a big book that'll make your head spin. ▼

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CHRISTMAS with the CRAWFORDS



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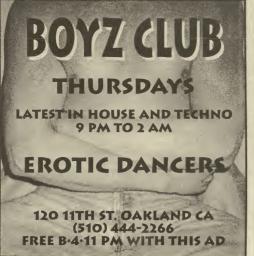
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utcrackermania

n the days before movies. the opera house was the great home of theatrical special effects, stage illusions, fantasies come to life. Dragons emerged from the mists in Wagner; ghosts of dead lovers wagner, gnosts of dead lovers flitted across the stage in *Giselle*. The *Nutcracker*, which had its premiere in St. Petersburg in 1892 at the Tsar's Imperial Theater, is one of our strongest links to the kind of mind-blowing theatrical fantasies our great-grandparents rantasies our great-grandparents saw as young people, and were haunted by for years after. Even today, I can get shivers at San Francisco Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*, when Clara starts to dream and the stage picture begins to swell, the Christmas tree starts to grow and grow and begins to swof, the christian are starts to grow and grow and becomes gigantic, and the toys under it emerge life-sized. I've seen it a number of times, but the emotions contained in it

mean so much to me, I can never see it without wanting to believe it. It makes me homesick: our family Christmas parties in New Orleans were a lot like this, with mysteriwere a lot like this, with hysterious customs, armies of cousins and great-aunts you scarcely knew

"the sofa people," they called themselves – and amazing food, exquisite little cakes. As a gay man with no children, seeing *The Nutcracker* could make me feel bereft, like I'd lost that world – except that I can identify with Clara's childless Uncle Drosselmeyer, who gives her the nutcrack-er doll and is her mentor, her guide into the world of dreams. It's my job in the family to help my brothers' kids with things their parents

don't know about.

Like A Christmas Carol, the other great embodiment of the Christmas spirit, The Nutcracker is built upon the relationship ween a rich, childless, spooky older man and a child who is at a order man and a child who is at a crossroads in life. Tiny Tim is dying and Scrooge gives the money that saves his life. Clara's godfather Drosselmeyer is rich in a different way: he is rich in lore, he knows how things tick. The difference is that A Christmas Carol is Scrooge's story – it is his inner transformation that we experience – while in *The Nutcracker* it is Clara's hopes and fears, her inner jour-

hopes and fears, her inner journey that we follow.

Since every ballet school with 12 girls studying pointe does a version of *The Nutcracker*, with canned music, there are lots of knock-offs around — and if you've got a niece dancing in one, go: you'll see somebody who's ennobled by the discipline, and your niece by the discipline, and your niece will be thrilled. There's a lot of talent around, actually, and excellent training even in small schools. Marin Ballet, Peninsula Ballet and especially Oakland Ballet have some musical, imaginative dancers who make a real stab at it. But there are only two heroic productions that promise to reach real levels of splendor: San Francisco Ballet's (which opened this week and runs through New Year's Eve), and a production never seen here before that's coming from Russia to San Jose's Performing Arts Center, December 20-24

Exhilarating movement

The Nutcracker is not jus for children; it's about child-



George Balanchine in a 1954 production of The Nutcracker.

hood. Since we see events through a child's eyes, it's easy to think they're trivial. But when Clara fights to save her nut-cracker, and actually kills the mouse king herself (she brains him with her shoe), she's crossed a threshold into a world without fears, and all the exhilarating dancing that follows is an articulation of this expansive

articulation of this expansive feeling of freedom.

The great productions all insist on telling the story; even George Balanchine, who hated unnecessary pantomime, staged a detailed party scene for his company in New York, and he yed Drosselmeyer himself. locked into Tchaikovsky's music – the social dances, the magic swelling Christmas tree, the battle of the tin soldiers and the mice, and the transition to a realm of idealized beauty. The pure dancing is the natural flow-ering of Clara's joy. Now the fantasy can take its perfect shape in dancing of crystalline snape in dancing of crystaffile clarity: the dazzling snow scene, the Sugar Plum Fairy's jeweled movements, and group dances that explore a variety of romantic moods – sensuality, gusto, zest, hilarity, tenderness, majesty. It is rich, fantastic, noble, and at times almost noble, and at times almost unbearably grand. Balanchine was one of many

Russian-émigré dancers who began transplanting ballet to the United States in the '30s. Ten years before creating his own version, he consulted with Willam Christensen, who staged America's first full-length Nutcracker at the San Francisco Opera House in 1944.

San Francisco's *Nutcracker* has some faults: the children's choreography is too sentimen-

tal, the old folks are made to look peculiarly ugly, and the Sugar Plum Fairy's solo does not make sense. Furthermore, not make sense. Furthermore, their Drosselmeyer is not a plausible enough person – he's too stagey. Still, it's a fantastic show: the Christmas party looks real, Clara is always well cast, the dance of the snowflakes is brilliant, the Russian dances research that the stage is the stage of the snowflakes is brilliant, the Russian dances are staged to the stage of the snowflakes is brilliant, the snowflakes is brilliant, the snowflakes is brilliant, the snowflakes is brilliant. are over-the-top, with wildness like you find in Russian novels. Helgi Tomasson's dancers are among the finest in the country. What will the Kirov Ballet's

production look like? No one I know knows, but the prospect of seeing them in San Jose is generating a lot of excitement, even though they are bringing only 20 dancers from St. Petersburg. (The rest will be coming from (The rest will be coming from the Kirov's satellite academy in Washington, D.C., which has been open since the end of the Cold War.) This is the company for which *The Nutcracker* was first created. This full-scale production will not be Ivanov's original – it was drastically revised in 1934 by Vasily Vainonen. It will be fascinating to see what shape this essentialmiddle-class ballet came to take in the Soviet years, and to see the new young exemplars of the grand Kirov style. ▼

Tickets to San Francisco Ballet's Nutcracker (\$7-\$100) can be purchased through BASS at 1-(510)-762-BASS or by calling 776-1999. For tick-ets to the Kirov/San Jose Nutcracker (\$18-\$65), call 1-408-998-BASS. Tickets for 408-998-BASS. Tickets for Oakland Ballet's *Nutcracker* (\$5-\$35) can be ordered through BASS or by calling 1-510-452-9288.

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'The America Play'

Mixed Messages

ith the West Coast premiere of Suzan-Lori Parks' The America Play at Theatre Artaud, it seems we're being asked to surrender to some kind of sublime vision of the African-American in our society and history. Stunningly produced by Thick Descriptions and BRAVA!, and superbly directed by Tony Kelly, it certainly *looks* and *feels* profound, but its message is unclear.

There isn't much of a plot. A gravedigger named Bram Price, also known as The Foundling Father (Rhonnie Washington), dons the tradition-Father (Rhonnie Washington), dons the traditional garb of Abraham Lincoln – stovepipe hat, beard, block overcoat – and spends his day charging folks a penny to take one of his many pistols and shoot him while he pretends to be watching and laughing through a performance of Our American Cousin. That's the first act.

The second act opens with two new characters listening to the echoing sounds of a gunshot, Lucy (Edris Cooper), Bram Price's widow, and their son Brazil (Brian Freeman). Lucy holds a large ear trumpet, which enables her to hear the

large ear trumpet, which enables her to hear the profound words of her deceased husband, and Brazil digs for the effects that his father buried before he died. Whenever Brazil unearths something (a bust of Lincoln or his father's coat), he adds it to a collection of things they call "the hall of wonders." Eventually, Lucy makes contact with her dead husband, who appears onstage again to give a brief eulogy before dying, this time for cool.

again to give a brief eulogy before dying, this time for good.

Somewhere in these two acts Parker attempts a reconfigured analysis of history. But whether she's telling me that all my ideas about history are wrong or if all existing ideas of history are wrong, I can't say. Maybe she's saying something entirely different. Somehow her philosophical ideas have become garbled in her

attempts to infuse the play with the conflict necessary for narrative drama

Great production, cast

Great production, castThough I must report that I feel somewhat ambivalent about whatever message is behind *The America Play*, I can report that the production is superbly directed by Tony Kelly. He's given a compelling physical life to the work despite the fact that Parks' ideas remain elusive. despite the fact that Parks Indeas remain clusive.
The elegant and earthy production is exquisitely designed by Lyann Su'euga (scenery) and Rick Martin (scenery and lighting). As a whole, the production is so finely tuned that every moment

production is so finely tuned that every moment manages to impress.

Rhonnie Washington is masterful as The Foundling Father. He never fails to hold the audience's complete attention. Edris Cooper is also good, whether she's bantering with Brazil or losing herself in a reverie of love for her late husband. She's a pleasure to watch. If Brian Freeman's Brazil comes across as exaggerated and clownish, that's because his role calls for it.

There is no question that Suzan Lori-Parks is a writer of consequence. Over the past several years this young African-American playwright has moved from relative obscurity to national prominence. Not too long ago she was a strug-

has moved from relative obscurity to national prominence. Not too long ago she was a struggling writer working out of a small off-off Broadway theater in Brooklyn. Now she's an associate artist at the Yale School of Drama. Her plays are unconventional in format but her writing is polished. Though this current effort doesn't coalesce into something meaningful for me, for others it may resonate on many levels. I can only hope so, because as physical productions go, this one is pretty provocative.

The America Play continues at Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida St. through Dec. 18 For tickets, call 621-7797.



Rhonnie Washington





Femmes

(Continued from cover)

wrong way. These iconoclast babes break the Barbie barrier, revealing their femme mystique in all its wondrous shapes, sizes, colors, ages and hairstyles.

colors, ages and hairstyles.

In other words, be prepared for attitude. Emcess Jessica Patton and Chloë Ohme, who co-produced the show along with Lisi DeHaas, are walking tributes to neo-punk femme iconography. Ohme's hair alone—a crimson tuft shooting up from a shaved head like a from a shaved head like crown chakra in flames - is work of art. Dressed in black. black, Ohme-the-icon signaled the evening's color scheme: nearly everyone draped her-self in the colors of blood and night. Patton broke rank with a layered white and plaid ensemble.

Fat Fury

Sheer physical femme presence speaks louder than theory. April Miller, a self-iden-tified fat woman, was like the threa fat woman, was like the Venus de Willendorf with a pretty face and a red spaghetti-strap evening dress. Reading from pages of hand-held notes, Miller dissed the thin world in ways we meeded to hear. Congratulating herself for her hard-earned "poise, self-respect and glam-our," she imagined herself the "embodiment of your worst nightmare." Who dared argue? Visions of Lililuokalani, the last reigning queen of Hawai'i danced in my head. In some cultures, fat is the stuff of which

royalty is made.

Beautiful brown-skinned
Alison Wright transported us to
the harem baths in 1781 Istanbul
with the aid of a red sheet and a big, wiggly hair wig. Using words like "nether lips" and her warm, cavernous laugh, Wright sold us on the relative pleasures of being cooped-up with 350 women wellversed in the art of love. It beat other forms of slavery.

When femmes talk, butches When femmes talk, butches listen – or should. And so should everybody else. Peggy Sue, looking like leading-lady material for Faster Pussycat, Kill! Kill!, wanted to know "Why am I automatically put into the boy's club because I have a foul mouth?" Or because she likes "to fight with her she likes "to fight with her fists?" Clearly some conscious-ness-raising was in order. But the stereotypical femme she



described as being "quiet, lady-like and submissive" sounded to some of us like a paper tigress. When Peggy Sue used the term femme-top, one lively member of the audience responded, "It's redundant!" A lot of us clapped in agreement

Riding the Great Divide

Martha Equinox, sometime auto-mechanic, psychic, auto-mechanic, psychic, astrologer and waitress, put the Great Femme/Butch Divide into perspective. Remembering the '50s' "economic tyranny" that sent femmes into the secretarial pools while their butches moped at home and the '70e' "crimival." at home and the '70s "criminal-ization of femme behavior and drag," Equinox preached tolerance within the community. The herstory lesson was much appreciated and her timing was great, but what did she mean by

the "receptive sensitivity of a femme and the compassionate competence of a butch?" Isn't it

the other way around?

Dossie Easton, aka Scarlet
Woman, was up about her "new Woman, was up about her "new red hair blazing in the sun." Therapist by day, this mature femme galvanized us with a meticulously detailed tale of being fucked in the ass while clinging to a bedpost. It brought anal retentiveness to new poetic heights. "We'll open everything there is and fuck it all!" she proclaimed, flinging her arms up in high Gloria Swanson style.

In that mystic intersection where flesh and

where flesh where flesh and consciousness collide, femmes get emotional and musical. A petite brunette with lots of hair and energy, Leslie did a lovelorn monologue in a black leather trenchcoat that proved riveting in its proved riveting in its expressionistic intensity. Segueing into a red slip and a guitar, she was joined by vocalist Carmen and violinist Dorothy to create strange, repetitive dishar-monies we didn't get enough of. Food for thought and fantasy, Death On Heels 2 proves femme is a many-splendored thing.

 \star

*

Death on Heels II: the Femmes Return runs Thurs-day through Sunday (8 p.m.) at Luna Sea, 2940 16th St. Suite 216c. For reservations (strongly recommended), call 863-2989.



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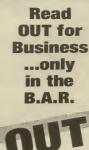


The Four Big Girls Return

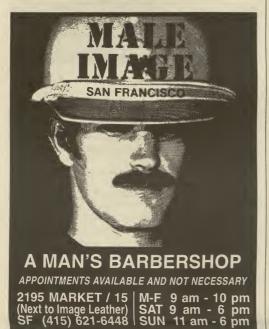
Big girls, an African-American Lesbian Comedy Team from Seattle, will return to San Francisco for the premiere of their new show *Around the Table*, a the premiere of their new show Around the lable, a sequel to their signature production, Bigger Than A Breadbox, at Theater Artaud, beginning Wednesday, December 28 (runs through December 30). The 4 Big Girls dispel myths about large women - specifically issues that large women of color face on a daily basis. Around the Table is a smorgasbord performance feast that features the best of their first show combined with a plate full of new surprises. Like all of life's meaningful moments, the action starts at the kitchen table. From the ridiculousness of the Miss Fat Black America table. From the ridiculousness of the Miss Fat Black America Contest to the ongoing struggle between a mother and daughter about the real meaning of pork chops in gravy, *Around the Table* is a deeper exploration of what happens when a woman crosses mainstream culture's line of appropriate size. Curtain times for performances are 8 p.m. Theatre Artaud is located at 450 Florida St. Tickets are available by calling 621-7797, or BASS/TICKETMASTER at 762-BASS. ▼



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BOOKS

The Best of U.S. Cultural Criticism

When Camille Paglia Is Not Enough

Rants and Raves of a Raging AIDS Clone by David B. Feinberg; Vlking, 22.95

avid B. Feinberg was alive when he com-piled his book of nonfiction essays and now he's dead. He wrote about AIDS because it was killing him. Queer and Loathing: Rants and Raves of a Raging AIDS Clone proves how unnecessary authors are to their books once they've written them. Even without Feinberg living and breathing somewhere in Manhattan, his writing is mean, clean, relevant, irreverent, savvy, sassy and very much alive. As long as the rest of us have to go on living with AIDS, we may as well let him make us laugh – 'til we cry –

Feinberg's prose pulses with humor. A New York Jewish atheist, ACT UP activist, and atheist, ACT UP activist, and keen observer, Feinberg explained his aesthetic at the 1992 OutWrite conference: "I'm interested in the joke that makes you wince as you laugh or suppress a smile...that simultaneously appeals appalls...that catches appalls...that catches you unaware, where your first response is to laugh and you immediately check yourself, ashamed." He defined his comic ethics in this critical question



"Did the author try to share experiences and use humor to get closer to the bitter truth, or was the humor merely added to

be outrageous?"
The facts of life-with-AIDS are outrageous enough, as is. Feinberg practices the ACT UP/NY art of truth-telling, which owes a lot to Jewish humor, wherein a sense of the humor, wherein a sense or the absurd is synonymous with humanity. Not that people shouldn't get angry, but comic timing never hurt the telling of outrageous truths. All it takes is acute intelligence, fellow feeling and not a little chutzpah to transmuter righteous rage into irony. mute righteous rage into irony, sarcasm, and tragic comedy.

Articulate and informative, the thirtysomething pieces in Queer and Loathing tell the reader a lot about our culture, through the AIDS glass, darkly funny.

Outlaw Culture: Resisting Representations by bell hooks; Routledge, \$14.95

Solstice Sister

n her essay, "Columbus: Gone But Not Forgotten," cultural critic bell hooks credits the Great White Father's legacy as being funda-mental to the "white suprema-cist capitalist patriarchy" that oppresses and depresses us to this day. White supremacist cap-italist patriarchy remains hooks' target throughout the 19 other italist patriarchy remains hooks' target throughout the 19 other essays in *Outlaw Culture*, whether she's taking apart Madonna, Camille Paglia, RuPaul, Spike Lee, or chewing the fat with Ice Cube. However pop the icon she's analyzing, hooks keeps her eyes on the hooks keeps her eyes on the prize, trying to get readers to see, "we must be willing to courageously surrender partic-ipation in whatever sphere of coercive hierarchical domina

tion we enjoy."

There's no easy way to step off that hierarchy, which hooks believes must be actively abanbelieves must be actively abandoned, not merely escaped from. Discussing the films *The Bodyguard* and *The Crying Game* in "What's Passion Got To Do With It?" hooks goes to the heart of what might be called the San Francisco problem She warns that eraticism is lem. She warns that eroticism is merely a reactionary replacement for political struggle as "the place of connection. This is a very postmodern vision of desire, as the new place of transgression that eliminates the need for radical politics."

But radical politics of the identity kind, tending towards divisiveness, is no solution either: "Given that cultural fascism is on the rise, that there is such open demand for separatist lem. She warns that eroticism is

such open demand for separatist politics, embracing notions of inclusion and exclusion, inclusion and exclusion whether based on shared gender, race, or nationality, seriously impedes all progressive effort to create a culture where border crossing enables both the shar-ing of resources and the production of a culture of communal-ism and mutuality."

ism and mutuality."

The answer, believe it or not, is love. Hooks' last essay, "Love as the Practice of Freedom" cites Martin Luther King's "decision to love" as the one viable foundation on which to build meaningful revolution. After all her tough-minded her tough-minded to the company of After all her tough-minded social critique, hooks' final words come as a surprise: "The words come as a surprise. The moment we choose to love we begin to move against domina-tion, against oppression...we begin to move towards freedom, to act in ways that liberate ourselves and others. That action is the testimony of love as the practice of freedom." Sounds an awful lot like doing unto others as you would have them do unto you – which, come to think of it, you – which, come to think of it, might be an okay way to celebrate the solstice. ▼



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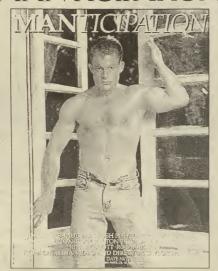
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Sopranos of Legend and the Boston Gay Men's Chorus

Canaries and Choirs for Christmas

by Philip Campbell

It should come as no surprise that stores are virtually over-flowing right now with new compact disc releases. The fol-lowing is just scratching the surface of the new titles available in the classical-music market alone. All four would make ideal stocking stuffers for the music lover in your life.



Sumi Jo/ English Chamber Orchestra. Richard Bonynge "Carnavall" London 440 679-2

Canary fanciers need look no further than Korean soprano Sumi Jo's sparkling collection of French coloratura arias, Carnavall, for a perfect holiday gift. This is the sort of esoteric treasure trove culled so beautifully in the past by Joan Sutherland with husband Richard Bonynge. The great lady has retired, but her mantle in this delicious repertoire has fallen gracefully to Jo, who gets some expert assistance from the still active Bonynge. A superb Queen of the Night several seasons back alerted the

several seasons back alerted the opera world to a major new talent. Camaval! proves there is more than a perfect trill on tap here, as wit, fluency and charm are listed among Miss Jo's considerable inducements. Pop some champagne, nibble Godiya, checolates and play it Godiva chocolates and play it on New Year's Eve



Ruth Ann Swenson/ The London Philharmonic/ Nicola Rescigno "Positively Golden" EMI 54827

Another glamorous chirp currently taking opera stages by storm is American soprano Ruth Ann Swenson. One of the few star attractions of the recent San Francisco Opera season, she's managed to transcend some rather breathless PR and prove that she really is more than the pouty Titian beauty on the cover of her first solo album.

Like Sumi Jo, Swenson has assembled a collection of col-oratura arias, but with Italian bel canto added to the lighter French music, the results are decidedly more serious. There's no harm in that, only one wishes this fresh young star had proved her worth with less

weight rests at the bottom of weight rests at the bottom of Swenson's brilliant range, and Juliet's "Jewel Song" springs from a perfect trill. Hopefully the next album will display equal parts imagination and awesome technique.



Dawn Upshaw/ **Eric Stern** "I Wish It So" Elektra Nonesuch 79345-2

Upshaw has established herself

esting voices. With a repertoire that bounces happily from Mozart to Massenet, Upshaw consistently displays an intelligence and purity of tone that

gence and purity of tone that never fails to please. Now, in an unexpected but logical jump, the American girl with the international flair has elevated the Broadway show tune to the status of the serious art song. With a gorgeous selection of songs from composers Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, Kurt Weill and the woefully neglected Marc Blitzstein, Upshaw has created the vocal album of the year and proved the enduring worth of great musical theatre.

A well-recorded band of stu-dio musicians led by conductor Eric Stern propels the talented songstress through some 40 years of Tin Pan Alley and showcases a dramatic range that moves from the poignant title

(Continued on page 48)





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BAY AREA REPORTER—December 15, 1994—PAGE 45

DeLaria

(Continued from cover)

Sporting short, coifed hair, an elegant beige pants suit and a string of pearls around her neck, DeLaria looked positively radiant when she appeared on the show last week. The only thing missing from her ensemble was that trademark ose ring. Ah, the compromises we make for stardom.

Yet, unlike some lesbian comics who've hit the mainstream (that other Italian, but we won't point fingers), DeLaria never compromised her sexual preference on the show.

First, here's the plot: In defending an innocent client who's been charged with murder, attorney-at-law Ben Matlock attempts to find out who killed the host of a popular radio talk show. DeLaria, who plays Homicide Detective Pat Poletti, decides to help out.

Now to the sex question. Actually, it's never clear what Poletti's preference is. She never says she's gay. But she's not straight either, even though at one point she does come on to Matlock – albeit jokingly. "You're the guy I've been looking for," she says to the old geezer with all

for," she says to the old geezer with all the straight sultriness she can muster.

Things really heat up when Matlock's investigation leads him to a trendy Atlanta nightclub where "anything goes," as Poletti says. Once inside the club, which appears to be predominantly gay, the camera pans to two women dancing creather are of whom her the used. the camera pans to two women dancing together, one of whom has the word "ecstasy" tattooed across her exposed lower back. Two guys even hit on Matlock – a southern drag queen who calls herself Judy Gale (Kevin Garriss), and a club kid named Tim (Kevin Scott Warner)

Of course, Poletti is friends with both gay men. She's also friends with the bar-tender and everyone else in the club.

Matlock's producers aren't stupid. They must have asked themselves who better than DeLaria to lead the old-fashioned attorney through this gay netherworld.

attorney through this gay netherworld.
But the real question concerns
DeLaria's future: Is this Mallock gig a
one-shot deal, or will Detective Pat
Poletti become a recurring character?
Could queerdom's most brazen lesbian
comic become TV's next Columbo? Stay
tuned to these pages for an answer.

The 'Priscilla' Curse

At the same time DeLaria was swaggering across the screen on ABC, Fox's new detective series New York Undercover was fitting its own streetwise cops into dresses in order to solve a series of dran quene killings. Talk should swan streetwise cops into dresses in order to solve a series of drag queen killings. Talk about syn-chronicity. What does it all mean? For two network shows – airing at the same time – to deal with gay-related themes must mean queers have either arrived at some new watershed or we've become the Flavor of the Month.

Actors Michael DeLorenzo and Malik Yoba play the show's way-straight cops who assume (probably just for one who assume (probably just for one episode) the roles of queen-neophytes Venus and Fantasia. The story centers on a downtown drag club. Joe Morton (Brother from Another Planet) plays the club's cross-dressing owner. Kudos to him for turning in such a well-etched performance. At once complex and intelligent,

he's never just an over-the-top snap diva.

The program's only false step is its cross-dressing psycho (Xander cross-dressing psycho (Xander Berkeley), the one who commits the mur-ders. Apparently abused from childhood, this character is a twisted soul who finally jumps to his death off a New York rooftop, like the unhappy transvestite on NBC's ER a few weeks ago. Are these suicide queens a trend in the making? If

so, should they be stopped?

Perhaps the answer to that question is both yes and no. After all, keeping one



Dressed for Success: Malik Yoba and Michael DeLorenzo

foot in the psycho bin might be the only way to prevent popular culture from com-pletely co-opting drag. Which we don't want because at the rate we're going Newt Gingrich will be dressing up as Eleanor Roosevelt come Halloween.
Undoubtedly, all this drag on TV just

begs the question, Are drag queens the hippies of the '90s, meaning that 20 years from now drag will be as passé as tie-dye shirts and platform shoes? (Imagine some kid saying to his gay dad in the year 2010, "Versity are there is an '10s.") 'Gosh pop, drag is so '90s.")
Of course, drag's final death knell will

sound when some smarmy TV producer

sells CBS an idea for a sitcom based on the Aussie film *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert* or the upcoming feature *To Wong Foo*. Picture it: Jamie Farr stars as an aging drag diva who takes her show on aging drag drive with takes her show on the road and picks up two young cross-dressing upstarts (Macaulay Culkin and The Cosby Show's Malcolm Jamal-Warner) along the way. I can hear the pro-mos now: "On the next episode of We Three Queens, the traveling trio helps a down-on-his-luck hermaphrodite start a talent agency for celebrity imperson-ators." Same drag time, same drag chan-

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Shrieking Galas

(Continued from cover)

described as the soundtrack to someone's nightmares, Galas is seen by some as an interesting but "difficult" artist to embrace. Admittedly, hers is "difficult" artist to embrace. Admittedly, hers is not the most user-friendly music in the world. So when I heard that she had teamed up with former Led Zeppelin bassist John Paul Jones to record an album, *The Sporting Life*, I was skeptical. Her free-form experimentation coupled with his dinosaur rock didn't seem like a good mix.

Boy was I wrong. It works remarkably well better frankly than anything Galas has ever done. Her shrill three-octave voice is the perfect com-

Her shrill three-octave voice is the perfect com-plement to Jones' overblown hard-rock drama. Their show last week at the Fillmore was nothing

less than riveting. Jones (who's been keeping busy doing film soundtracks and producing albums for the likes of the Butthole Surfers) and drummer Denny Fongheiser kept things dark and heavy, giving Galas the musical bombast to scream along to. Robert Plant wishes he could sing with such passion, but 'fraid not. On such songs as "Baby's Insane" and "Skotoseme," Galas raged into the microphone, and the such passion, but the such passion, but 'fraid not.

"Skotoseme," Galas raged into the microphone, spinning twisted tales of revenge fantasies and what she calls "homicidal love songs." At other times, things got a bit bluesy as Galas sat behind a Hammond organ and, believe it or not, sang.

The mostly urban-hipster crowd was deeply into it, especially a group of crazy dykes near the front. Every time Galas let loose one of her long, trademark shrieks, they would scream along with her. It was scary but in a rather beautiful way.

One can only hope that Galas continues this potent collaboration. I rather like her as a powerful, screaming rock goddess.

ful, screaming rock goddess

Pour-part harmony
Despite this article's title, the four women of Jale don't exactly scream. In fact, their voices harmonize beautifully – definitely the band's strongest asset. In prototypical do-it-yourself fashion, Jale began as part-joke, part-brilliant idea. In art school, the women all decided to be in a band. After deciding who would get to play what, they then began learning their instruments.

And Jale learned fast. Last year they were signed by Seattle's prestigious indie label, Sub Pop, and their debut album, Dream Cake, has just been released.

released.

This 12-track, 36-minute gem is a refreshing burst of rock-and-roll exuberance. Eve Hartling and Jennifer Pierce jangle their guitars but are also prone to use their distortion pedals. Bassist Laura Stein and drummer Alyson MacLeod keep the rhythm

going.

With a sound reminiscent of Belly, Throwing Muses and the Blake Babies, it should come as no surprise that this group is from the Northeast as well. It's just that Jale is a bit further north and east than their counterparts, hailing from what the music press is hyping as "the next Seattle," Halifax, Nova Scotia.

However, don't let that fool you. Though there are a few "grungy" underpinnings to Jale, its members have a lot more to offer than mere scene-mon-

Though their voices were in top form, the band Inough their voices were in top form, the band looked a little unsure of themselves when they first took the stage last week at the Bottom of the Hill, where they opened for labelmates Velocity Girl. With uneasy smiles on their faces, it took them a few songs to warm up, but once they got going, their performance turned from lackluster to inspired, ending with the jubilant dream-pop of "Promise."

Apt acronym

Following Jale's set was Britain's latest flavorof-the-month, Echobelly. On their debut album,
Everyone's Got One, the band comes off as sort of
an updated Blondie for the '90s, with a few
Morrissey and Smiths influences thrown in.
Charismatic lead singer Sonya Aurora Madan
writes intelligent lyrics dealing with feminism and
self-confidence, and I'm certain it's no coincidence that the album's acronym is "ego."

Much like their record, Echobelly's set was
filled with memorable hooks and catchy melodies.
Rumored dyke Debbie Smith thrashes around on
lead guitar with reckless abandon, commanding
her instrument with self-assured cockiness. Three
cute boys round out the rest of the band's sound.

Highlights of Echobelly's set included the antimarriage "Father Ruler King Computer," where
Sonya sings in her clear, shining voice: "I am
whole all by myself, I don't need nobody else." "I
Can't Imagine the World Without Me" was also a
big hit with the adoring crowd, which seemed
composed of every Anglophile in San Francisco.

Total wild women

Getting back to that screaming women thing, LA hard-rockers L7 play a pair of shows at Slim's this coming Monday and Tuesday. Although their latest album, Hungry for Stink, didn't slam me as hard as its predecessor, Bricks Are Heavy, it's still laden with enough chops and attitude to keep things interesting. These four grungy punks are also total wild women in concert and always attract a loyal San Francisco dyke following. So bring your earplugs and your sturdiest pair of Doc Marten's, and I'll see you in the mosh pit. ▼

Mr. Bill Learns to Like It

Thrills and Frills

ur husband of oh so many (many, many)
years professes to hate
porn, but is consistently aroused by it despite himself. You know the type: "No! No! No! – Yeesss!"

No! - Yeesss!"

The problem with honey until this reviewing gig came up to get him to watch, until this reviewing gig came up was how to get him to watch, which is why it's been so groovy having an excuse – nay, a duty – to play smutty videos morning, noon and night. Mr. Bill "accidentally" sees humpy guys fucking every which way to Tuesday and – voilà! – in no time he's ours. (Again and again and again and again. Oooh baby, aaah.)

Now, of course, the little bugger can't get enough of the stuff and even fancies himself a connoisseur. No Bijou retreads when Mr. Bill holds the remote. Ditto with artsy Bad Brad and Ellary Stag. Mr. B don't need

frills to get his thrills.
All or part of the three tapes below warmed honey to the very cockles of his cockle. He'd tell you about them himself, but he's too busy previewing the videos for next week's column. In the meantime ..

Our god Hal

It's been a while since a porn star has infatuated yours truly as much as our new house of wor-ship, Hal Rockland. The man could gaze out the window for an hour and we'd probably gush about his glorious minimalist

technique.

Mr. Rockland is the star of Mr. Rockland is the star of Flashpoint, a glossy yet gritty (literally and figuratively) effort from Falcon. The piece opens with Hal in slo-mo, leaving a Nevada casino flush with cash, a satisfied smile on his face. He heads out for the desert – shot in glowing, sepia-like tones – in his shiny '60s convertible. Scott Baldwin works at a

Scott Baldwin works at a desolate gas station run by the queeniest grease monkey since Kip Noll. Why Baldwin's taking orders from this swish we'll never know, because Baldwin slips into Rockland's car after filling the tank and his eminence gradeingly allow being to take. grudgingly allows him to stay.

A bit later, it's time for a pit

stop. Scotty waits in the car while Hal heads for a urinal. A tearoom queen drops to her knees in a flashpoint, her hook-ing, boomerang-of-a cock bobbing up and down and side to side simultaneously. It's a sight to behold, even if she isn't. Servicing his lordship gets Ms. Tearoom so excited her cock has

Tearoom so excited her cock has practically straightened itself out by the time she shoots a gloppy load. Another miracle courtesy of our god Hal.

With his lovely flute and the sexiest foreskin in the biz, Mr. Rockland is a veritable Pied Piper. No sooner does he wipe the cum off his boots than two guvs motion him into another guys motion him into another stall. A vigorous three-way ensues. Hal's been working out since his role in By Invitation Only; this scene shows his pecs and robust nipples to great

After a motel stay during which Baldwin jacks off to the sounds of a dildo-enhanced three-way next door, a hitchhiker regales Hal and Baldwin with



Scott Baldwin (left) and Mr. Hal Rockland in Flashpoint.

a tale about a man (Trent Reed), a boy (Bryce Colby) and – among other large things – a fluorescent-orange traffic cone.

Somewhere deep in my past I can recall a guy cooing, "Visualize a door opening," which wasn't particularly helpful at the time because the only thing I could imagine was walk-ing out of it. The Cone-Receptive One has no such problems. CRO's posterior is problems. CRO's posterior is most expansive, so much so that — well, let's just say that we won't be putting up with any more sniveling from a certain party at our house. If CRO can go mano a butthole with Reed, you know who can just learn to take it and like it.

Later that day Rockland and

Later that day, Rockland and Baldwin are ambushed by some fag-hating rednecks who like to cornhole unsuspecting tourists. Real oxymorons, these guys. Hal the omnipotent breaks away, his virtue more or less intact, but not before the ring-leader reams Baldwin out butt good. Better late than never, Hal yanks the ejaculating villain off his pal and lovingly carries Scotty away to another motel, where they live happily – at least for the next few hours ever after.

Love Potion No. Slime

Mess Hall Maneuvers is more uneven than Flashpoint, but does have its moments. Its plot is simple: A mess hall cook cums in the soup and everyone

on base gets horny.

After two j.o. bits, director
Tempest intercuts several trysts, a strategy that would have worked better had they been of more equal intensity. A three-

way between toothy, toothsome Marco Rossi and two others is considerably hotter than the rest, with a duet in the mess hall a distant but not shameful sec-

The rest are duds, especially a sequence between a blubbering captain who has convinced a ing captain who has convinced a lieutenant to take on a "special assignment." The reluctant underling is quite handsome, but Tempest shoots him from such unflattering angles that at times he looks more like a candidate for Jenny Craig than a lean, mean fighting machine. *Mess* isn't a big mess, but Mr. Bill declares it worth a peek only for Marco and his pals.

No-Frills Thrills

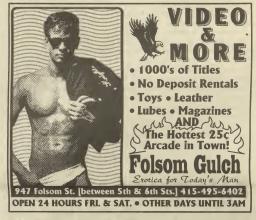
The parsimonious Jim Steel checks in with One Night of Sin, starring Damien, the porn star with the Sandra Bernhard pout. Mr. Steel knows how to make a video on a shoestring – Damien's dream about a sixway takes over an hour to consummate, all on three beds in an open set.

Chiaroscuro lighting is the order of the day, with not too many close-ups and but two visual thrills: the camera occasionally lists to starboard (to no particular effect) and Steel employs some mood-inducing fog over the credits and in a few

other spots.
Oddly enough, it sort of works, or so thought Mr. Bill.

The guys are all hot and Mr. Steel manages to put them through some interesting paces.

Note: Editors Studio's Flashpoint, starring our reviewer's house of worship Hal Rockland, was the big vinner at the recent Gay Erotic Video Awards Show in LA. It won Best Video, Best Director (John Rutherford), Best (John Rutherford), Best Supporting Actor (Scott Baldwin), Best Erotic Scene, Best Cinematography (Todd Montgomery), and Best Newcomer (Hal Rockland). Falcon also picked up awards for Pleasure Express and Workin' Stiff. To order Falcon Videos call 431-7722. Videos, call 431-7722.





B.A.R. classifieds **REALLY work!**



Body, But No Soul

An LA Gymbot in His Natural Habitat

Cleopatra Productions Body and Soul - The Complete

aniel Torres, professional fitness trainer and hard body, stars in the new workout video Body al - The Complete Workout. The South-American born Torres now lives in LA, of course, and his physique is of that perfect, buffed, hairless type that has become a '90s cliche. Lovingly photographed in this one-hour workout video, Torres manages to communicate some valuable and practical advice regarding physical fitness in spite of the basic Harlequin novel visuals provided by Cleopatra Productions.

The first 15 minutes of the video are

The areast approach of director Guy.

The general approach of director Guy W. Clearly might best be described as Soloflex-infomercial-meets-Playboy Channel. Throughout the video, there's lots of slow motion, sepia-toned photog raphy, soft focus, and oiled bodies. But just when you're about to hit the eject button, Torres and his voice-over narra-

tion take you to Day One of his three-day workout program.

Once he gets into the gym, you learn that Torres really does know what he's talking about. He offers three different workout routines that are well-planned,

clearly described and nicely demonstrated by several buffed, shirtless models of the peculiar LA variety that works out in hot pants. The video includes nutritional guidance, grooming tips, and good advice regarding breathing techniques during a workout. Torres wisely recommends complementing any weight-lifting program with an aerobic workout as well. He is absolutely correct when he advises that the best way to transform your body is to adopt a weekly program that includes three days of aerobic activ-ity, three days of weight-lifting, and par-

ity, three days of weight-lifting, and par-ticular attention to diet.

The Soul aspects of this video get rather short shrift, probably because they're not quite as camera-ready as the embarrassment of physical riches that has been assembled. Torres emphasizes that the ideal workout combines attention to both the physical and sprigus largers. to both the physical and spiritual aspects of the individual, but besides a brief section devoted to massage, the spiritual side is pretty much ignored. There are all sorts of slow camera pans over sweaty, semi-nude bodies but not a single shot devoted to meditation or other spiritual pursuits. The actual workout routines are pursuits. The actual workout routines are the kind of thing you would pay a per-sonal trainer a great deal of money to learn, but implementing them might be difficult for those who don't have a com-

plete home gym equipped with a video screen you can watch while working out.
One of the most important points of the video is made in the beginning, when Torres explains that we can all have the body we want as long as we are willing to make the long-term commitment to create it. This is absolutely true. ▼





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BOOKS

It Was A Dark And Stormy...

The Mysterious Naiad edited by Katherine V. Forrest and Barbara Grier; Naiad, \$14.95

ow I know you'll be tempted to read Lauren Wright Douglas' brilliant, funny, stunning four page story, "Sorting the Mail," while standing in the bookstore. You may even think this story is so good that, having read it, you don't need to buy the book. You could do that, but to quote an eternally disgraced dead president, "it would be wrong."

president, "it would be wrong."

Wrong, not only because you would be cheating dyke writers of their royalties, but also because you would miss out on the other exceedingly wonderful stories in this third anthology from Naiad. There's Catherine Ennis's darkly satisfying tale "The Last Time," Susan Johnson's very creepy "Murderer's Memoir," to list only two.

A good short story is better than practically anything. Naiad's latest collection of short works by its authors, a group of writers that get more impressive each year, is very fine indeed. \(\bigcup \)

—Deborah Peifer

-Deborah Peifer



MUSIC

Canaries

(Continued from page 45) track to the demanding col-oratura of Bernstein's "Glitter and Be Gay.

Gay Men's Chorus "Visions-Words For the Future" Afka Records SK – 426

The Boston Gay Men's Chorus has released an enterprising disc of music commis-sioned by various gay choruses. If the results are decidedly uneven, the intent is certainly admirable.

Music Director Robert Barney leads his 90-voice chorus through some very good and

some rather bland works by composers ranging from the well-known (Conrad Susa, Bobby McFerrin) to the quietly proficient (Stuart Raleigh, David Conte) to the downright obscure (Daniel Pinkham, Bill Cutter, Jeffrey Broady).

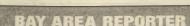
Cutter, Jeffrey Broady).

The generous acoustics of Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory of Music add depth to the rather bass-light chorus. The lack of any real identifying quality to the large group lends a certain sameness to the selections and frankly. to the selections and, frankly, some of the pieces are just not very inventive. Still, when the music rises to the level of the lyrics, the results are thrilling.

Visions may ultimately find way into the libraries of specialist collectors, but at least one



selection will tempt local listen-ers, David Conte's beautiful ers, David Conte's beautiful Invocation and Dance, which was commissioned by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. This may be a difficult album to locate, but writing to BKM Associates, Box 22, Wilmington MA 01887 should secure a copy.



Bay Area Distance Runners Race Out of '94

The Bay Area Distance Runners finished the 1994 sea son in fine style at the Cal International Marathon in Thirteen members participated in the 26.3 mile run and, despite cold, drizzly weather, two athletes raced to personal best

"I'm very pleased," said BADR co-chair Dave Studach. "It was an outstanding effort by everyone and we got three run-ners to qualify for the 1996 Boston Marathon." The Boston Marathon celebrates it centenni-al in '96 so runners around the globe are anxious to qualify for

it.

Studach was most pleased with newcomer Allison Goodwin, who ran her first marathon in three hours and 48 minutes. "For a first-timer to do minutes. For a first-timer to do so well is unusual," Studach enthused, "She really performed well. We're really proud of her. She's been a real positive influ-

"The last three miles were pretty tough," Goodwin said after the race. "The Club had been preparing me just to be happy to finish, but to finish in three minutes and forty-eight seconds have me existing." seconds has me ecstatic!

Jane Meyer was equally upbeat when she learned she'd outdone her previous best time by an astounding 20 minutes. "I'm totally psyched!" she exclaimed. "I had no idea I would do so well." Her finishing time qualified her for the '96 Boston run.

The top finisher for BADR was Aaron Levin, who ran the marathon in three hours and eight minutes, another of the day's personal bests. A former track runner who has converted to the marathon, Levin has become one of BADR's leading runners. He's also headed for Roston in '166. Boston in '96. Other BADR finishers at Cal

International included John Kruse, Peter Lundberg, Lucia Wade (she qualified for Boston), wade (sne qualified for Boston), Jerry Foshez, Marian Lyons, Terry Baransy, Gregg Potts, Chris Neal and Todd Casey. Jon Borset race-walked his way through the drizzling rain in a respectable time of five hours, 40 minutes 40 minutes.

"Its been a great year for us," Studach said. "We started the year by participating in the first annual Walt Disney World Marathon and ended the year at Marathon and ended the year at Cal International. I'll be running this weekend in the Honolulu Marathon. It's been a tremen-dous season."

Studach was particularly proud of the large contingent San Francisco took to the Gay Games in June. The Club entered 50 runners and collected five medals (three silver, two

bronze). During the year, BADR team members also ran marathons in Paris, Monterey, marathons in Paris, Monterey, Big Sur, Napa Valley, in addition to Bay to Breakers, the San Francisco Zoo Run (10K), San Francisco Half Marathon, the Hood-To-Coast Relay (196 mile relay run on Oregon Coast), and the Boston Marathon, among others. The Club also hosted its third annual BADR Half Marathon on Memorial Day weekend.

Marathon on Memorial Day weekend.
"We'll be doing a lot of the same runs as well as some new stuff next year," Studach offered. "Our big push is to get members qualified for the 100th Boston. There are rigid standards set he new groups that dards, set by age groups, that runners have to make to get in, but we've already made a good

start on being represented at this prestigious event." Studach said he was gratified

that the Club helped so many first-time runners. "It's great to see the progress in newcomers," he said. "We had seven people run their first marathon at the Gay Games, and we seem to have more in training all the runners and the supportive atmosphere makes it a pleasure to run all the miles we put into training and racing."

The Bay Area Distance Runners Club is open to all interested athletes. Weekly workouts are on Sundays. Call Dave at (415) 626-1380 for more information.



Bay Area Distance Runners

COMING UP







New Year's Sound Spectacle

lub Universe and Pleasuredome present New Year's
Eve '95 on Saturday, December 31st featuring a live
performance by Inner City and DJs Aaron O, Jan
Cooley, Jerry Bonham, Blackstone & Neil Lewis.
Join these great disc shooters and Inner City in 15,000 square
feet of dance space, state of the art lighting, 20,000 watts of
powerful sound, 12 bars and the exciting and fabulous VIP

lounge.

Inner City (pictured above) is Producer/mixer/multi-instrumentalist Kevin Saunderson and vocalist Paris Grey. Their debut album generated an unprecedented string of hits including, "Big Fun," "Good Life," "Ain't Nobody Better" and "Whatcha Gonna Do With My Lover." Their new track, "Share My Life," is a guaranteed chart topper.

Club Universe & Pleasuredome is at 177 Townsend St. Tickets are \$20 in advance at Headlines on Castro St. and Market St. Tickets at the door are \$25. For more information, call 985-5256. The party starts 9:30 p.m. ▼



Bar Talk Personals

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Available only in the Bay Area on touch-tone phones. You must be at least 18 y/o to call.

PARTING GLANCES

Beige Ram Truck - On 18th Street heading from Mission to Castro. You: Blondish hair & moustache. Rainbow Pnde Flag sticker on back bumper. We have drivin by each other on 18th St. between noon & 1pm severe between noon & 1pm several times now, we both look but never stop. I drive different cars, but you always look. EXT 4262.

Sloan Garden Center - Sun. 11/20. Saw you at the nursery & at the checkout counter. You had a grey sweatshirt & jean jacket. I wore a khaki jacket, give me a call. EXT 4240.

SF Opera, "Herodiade", 11/15 - W/ Placido Domingo, second intermission, we were both sitting on the floor & exchanged glances until a man came to talk w/ you. Me: young, dark boy t-shirt, black pants & boots. Hope you remember, would like to meet you. EXT 4241.

Josies, Sat. 11/15 - You: short, dark hair, navy blue t-shirt & jeans, sitting next to 2 friends. Me: black curly hair & goatee, sitting right behind you wi friend to my left. We met up again on comer of 16th, Noe & Market & smiled looking back at each other as we parted. Look forward to hearing from you & the onoportunity to see you gagin. & the opportunity to see you again. EXT 4265.

Kelly Call Frank in Oakland - I want to see you in your black lin-gerie & heels. I can't stop thinking about you. EXT 4266.

Grove & Gough, Fri. 11/18 - At 9:40am. Me: sitting at bus stop (line 21), dark WM. You: in your yellow car at traffic light. Starred, smiled & waved at each other. If this is not a missed connection, then I'm an astronaught. Would like to meet you. EXT 4267.

The Joy of Gay Sex - We met in Berkeley at benefit performance of "Joy" in Sept. We discussed old a new testament attitudes towards homosexuality during intermission, but you were long gone by curtact call. Let's connect & see "Joy" again in Dec. at Theatre Rhino. EXT 4268.

Gay Mexican Male Ad - #3845 in Oct. 13th issue. Sorry I missed

your ad. I'm Karl & live in San Leandro. Would like to hear from you. EXT 4269.

Randy from S.L. - We've been going to same gym (24hr Nautilus) for years, but had hardly spoken until recently, a little. Personal trainer or not, you're doing something right. I think you're beautifub but hardly ever see you. I'm tall, thin, bearded, distinctive looking, Wongter it you could be interested. Wonder if you could be interested. EXT 4290.

BART Civic Ctr. Thanksgiving Day - 5:40pm. You: in black suit, WM, tall, going East Bay direction or downtown SF? Me: dark WM, leather jacket, black jeans, going Daly City direction. Had to rush for dinner at friend's & you became more aggressive only after I entered the BART. Smiled at you, let's meet. EXT 4291.

Mark - Welcome to Cal Fed, hope to see more of you. A faithful lust, to a new "cute" teller. The Mistery Man. EXT 4292.

Bimbo's Jazz Concert, 11/3 -You: w/ Asian woman, dark hair, balding. I said "H" to friend at your table. We kept staring, please call. EXT 4293.

Blow Buddies, Sun. 11/20 - Around 10:30. You: black jeans, tan shirt, thin brown hair, incredible thick gorgeous cock. Me: Asian, black jeans, shirtless, hunky, not young, not old. We had a brief encounter. Please call. I'm obsessing. EXT 4313.

MUNI, Sunday 11/27 - Saw you at MUNI underground Castro Station going towards Embarcadero. You: moustache, tall, dark, handsome, in denim. Me: w/ Asian male, tall, moustache, heavyset. Give a call. EXT 4322.

Target, 11/27 - You were cute Asian male in tan jacket & jeans shopping in the plastic organizers area. Me: tall, moustache, heavyset, would like to talk to you w/o my friends around. EXT 4323.

Zapata Taqueria, 18th & Collingwood - Sat. 12/3, around 2:30pm. You: red jacket, moustache, came in & got yours to go. Me: GWM, moustache, younger, black & blue flannel shirt, I got a soft drink to go. Saw you in line, then again at the Walgreens parking lot as you drove off in your ing lot as you drove off in your white car (Lexus? maybe), we smiled. How about lunch sometime? Please call. EXT 3947.

"BOODERS 2" on Lic. Plate We were driving on Hwy 80, heading east toward Sacramento. Youbrown hair & moustache, driving a
white Mazda truck w/ fireflighter
logos on back window. Me: short
brown hair & horseshoe moustache, driving red car. You took
Winters/Redding exit, (Hwy 505?).
Found you very handsome.
Please call. EXT 4330.

Aqua/Greenish M. Benz - You have short brown buzz cut & moustache, & beautiful eyes that match car. I am younger guy also w/ short cut & stache, br/br. Was driving rental car w/ a friend on Market b/w Noe & Sanchez. We kept looking at each other, but I was too shy then to stop & say hi. Been thinking about those eyes. EXT 4331. Been think EXT 4331.

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society -R A R 12/8 issue, page 11. You Arcadia Bodybulliding Society -B.A.R. 12/8 issue, page 11. You are the model w/ moustache. Very handsome & very nice young GWM would like to work out w/ you & get some BB tips. EXT 4337.

J Church Cutie - Nov. 28, I got off at 16th/Church. Me: brown hair, wearing all black. You: blondish brown hair, black leather jacket, scarf. Were you looking at me? I hope sol Please call. EXT 4378

Azteca Taqueria - Weds. 11/30, 6:30pm. Me: blue shirt, goatee, eating w/ friend. You: denim shirt (?), black jacket, pants. You sat behind me & to my right. Let's connect. EXT 4380.

9/23 Underwear/Black Party You: Beefy, strong/silent type, sexy eyes, sweet smile, plaid flannel boxers. Me: dark, long, straight hair, athletic body, sweet eyes/smile, black jeans. We danced & I helped "conceal" your excitement. I would do anything to share the sunset & a bottle of dry end w/ you at the beach on 12/10 red w/ you at the beach on 12/10 or 12/17. EXT 4339.

Brown Buick Regal, KPFA Sticker - At 150th St. Laundry, San Leandro, 3pm, Sat. 12/3. You wore white sweat shirt, I was in black w/ shades. Let's get togeth-er. EXT 4341.

Buena Vista, Sun. 12/4 - We met cautiously, embraced tenderly. You ran; scared by overweight gawker? I was taken by your quiet

presence, gentle touch, beautiful soul & body. Hope to reconnect in better setting, enjoy each other, maybe build friendship. I care, will honor your limits. EXT 4342.

Macy's Post Office - Fri. 12/2. We are 2 large men, each in our own way. I'm HIV+, if that's not a barrier, let's talk. EXT 4358.

Fri., 12/2, 4pm, Pine St. - Near Stock Exchange. You grey pants, black jacket. You looked, I looked. I wanted to say hi but you got on bus at Pine & Sansome. EXT 4372.

Stonestown McDonald's
Tuesday afternoon 11/29. You
handsome WM sitting alone reading newspaper. You caught the
eye of this WM several times. You
followed me into Merill's & the
disappeared. Would love to meet
you for co

12/2 Steiner Near Geary - You: White Suzuki (?). Me: red p/u w/ camper. Pressing appointment, couldn't stop. EXT 4340.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

M-M

Birkenstock Fag Seeks Same -GWM, 27, 6'4", 160#. Long haired cwm, 27, 64*, 160#. Long haired iconoclastic grad. student into Witgenstein, Burroughs, surfing, & long drives to Mendocino. Seek doppelganger for intellectual exchange, passionate evenings, & casual relationship possibly leading to serious. EXT 4242.

Filipino-Asian - Sought by vin-tage Italian male for friendship and/or whatever. Let's live a little & share loving moments together. Be serious & open minded. San Jose/South Bay. EXT 4243.

HIV+ WM Looking For Same -WM looking for goodlooking WM. I'm 5'6", 165#, br/bl, goodlooking. I'm incarcerated at this time, please respond so we can write & stay in touch, then meet when I get out. EXT 4244.

Papa Bear Seeks Black Cub -GWM 54, 6', 210#, healthy & fit, stache, hairy chest, looking for casual or intense relationship w/ younger GBM, slender or muscu-lar. I'm stable, well-educated. Not looking for any particular type or role; but cuddly blue collar are plusses. East Bay ok. EXT 4245.

Boyfriend Wanted - U R under 19, Latino, attractive, into varied fun things. Me: blonde GWM, attractive, exciting personality, not into bars, drugs, cigc. ok. Call me 4 a date. EXT 4246.

HIV+ Latin Top Wanted - HIV+
GWM, bl/bl, 6', 190#, 32, handsome bottom seeks Mr. Thick, dark
k-horny, Stache, hot, uncut, tatoos
are a+. Looks & age unimportant.
I love husky big boys & experienced papacitos. Make me sore,
& I'll be yours. Capricoms, Virgos,
& Scorpios most welcome. EXT
4247.

Buddy Wanted for Friendship & Sex - Tall, thin, cute, "alternative" fag looking for a regular sex partner to try everything w/ - safely. Looking for similar, under thirty, sick of bar scene, but homy. EXT

Are You My Mr. Right? - Attractive, 30ish WM seeks HM/WM for LTR. Do you like to cuddle, spend quiet nites at home, just be w/ the one you love, c/w music, going to movies, Bughing, to name a few. If you like just one, I think we should meet & seal our fate. EXT 4249.

tate. EXT 4249.

One Huge Throbing Cock - Would be nice. But a huge throbing heart is what I'm looking for. GWM, HIV+, healthy, handsome, humorous, 33, 55°, 170#, bl/gr, short beard & stache, blue jeans & flannel shirt kind of guy. 75% bottom, 25% versatile. Seeking other HIV+, health conscious, good looking men 30-45, tops, for friendship & good time. White, Hisp., Ital., uncut a+. EXT 4250.

Your Age No Problem - I'm an ex model, love to travel, have nice build, long blonde hair, late 30s, erotically pleasing. My buns get hot in a Merc. Benz or BMW. Caring & compassionate. EXT 4251.

The Reindeer Went AWOL - Red bearded hairy, chubby WM seeks friendship, cuddling, kissing & oral fun w/ dark skinned slender chubby chaser. N/D, N/A, please. EXT 4270.

Beauty & the Beast - GWM 58, plain of face seeks the beauty of your warmth, laughter & affection. You over 55, slim, sensous, sincere, & sweet. EXT 4271.

Attracted to Men 50+, 200-300# - Well built young, mature GLM, enjoys portly, mature gentlemen, looks aren't important, who you are as a human being is. I really love sharing myself. I'm attractive relationship oriented, very affectionate, kind, caring, considerate, fun, 510°, 39, 190#, HIV-, versatile, clean shaven, smooth. EXT 4272.

GM Goldwing Motorcyclist Cleancut, NS, ND, lite drinker, at home, seeks the other for friend or more later. We match closely, 5'8", 140#, stache, not into bar scene, o S&M, gentlemen only, we are both 1st class, secure, into caring, respect, home life & adventure. EXT 4273.

GBM Seeks Friend - Must be bearded & thin. I'm 38, HIV-, 185#, 6'1". Into progressive art, rock, jazz, & space music, mas-sage, hiking, cuddling, occult, mountains, woods, wildflowers, vegitarian food, gardening, & spiri-tuality. NS, ND, NA. EXT 4274.

GWM Teddybear 225# - Seek A/L/B men. You love laughter, traveling, dining out & spending quality time at home. Sex is spontaneous celebration of your sexual passions. You are greek & french A/P, attractive, educated, financial-

ly stable, & value friends as family. Under 40. EXT 4275.

Seeking Friend - For weekends. Seeking Asian or light skinned Black male, boyish 18-24, thin & smooth, who likes outdoors, movies, massage. Me: 26, light brown skin, 6'3', 180#, student, like to travel, easygoing. Hiking, tennis a+. EXT 4276.

Buropean Top Seeks Bottom Boy - Me: 39, 6', 150#, clean shaven, HIV- You: 30s, shorter, smooth, clean shaven, trim, kisser, cuddler. Am into shaving, buttplay, eloring our fantasies. Some leather or underwear is cool. Masculine only please. EXT 4277.

BiAM Seeks TV - 37, 5'10". BIAM Seeks TV - 37, 5107, 175#, top, seek younger, slender, petite Asian TV (especially Chinese) for discreet LTR. If you for, intelligent, kind, attractive, HIV-, seeking smooth & feminine counterpart, closeted ok. I laike massage, good food, talking, culture & private fun. EXT 4278.

Father-Son Relationship -GWM, 6', 180#, 72y/o, welcomes inquiries to explore the possibilities of capturing some aspects of the above. EXT 4294.

Young HIV+ Seeks Same -GWM 25, 6'1", br/bl, 160#, model looks, muscular, w/out attitude. Seek other masculine, muscular, HIV+ GWM, w/ good looks, under 32 for friendship & poss. LTR. EXT 4295.

Let's Get Graphic - Asian Male, 30, 5'10", 175#, masculine, attrac-tive & muscular. New to graphic design scene. Would like to meet other designers for conversations, friendship, or more if we really hit it off. EXT 4296.

rotal Bottom - Wishes to be even more submissive to top GWM, HIV+. I'm early 50s, 5'11", 225#, generous, passionate, love sex. Let's do it. LTR real possibil-ity. But, live in SF, please. EXT 4297. Total Bottom

College Student - 21y/o, 5'9", 130#, br/br, South Asian, look Spanish, medium build, HIV-, romantic, inexperienced. You preferably student, 18-24, GWM or GAM, N/S, HIV-, ht./wt. proportion-ate, for friendship or poss. LTR. EXT 4298.

Versatile Easy-Going 35y/o GWM, HIV+, healthy, active, average good looks, seeks stable employed, sensable man, 30-40 in good physical shape. EXT 4299.

Cute & Likeable - Are you tired of one night stands, bars & phone games? Then I would like to meet you. I'm a GAM seeking a tall muscular handsome male. Must be NS, ND, NA. Serious guys only, please. EXT 4314.

Cute, Brigh, Nice - GWM 24, 611, 170#, br/br, grad student, seeks guy under 30 for LTR. Mequiet, senous & intense, athletic, gentle but firm, very intelligent, idealist, philosopher. You: serious, cute, intelligent, challenging, HIV-, any race, preferably tall, slender, clean-shaven, not into clubs, noise, t.v., fashion & divertissement. EXT 4316.

GAM Seeking GWM - SF GAM, 5'11", 160#, seeking intelligent, thoughtful, humorous, romantic, mature, NS, ND, HIV-, no facial hair, ht/wt proportionate GWM. EXT 4317.

The Hottest Guy In Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condomination of the protect yourself & those you have been played to the protect of the protect o when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're

Bar Talk Personals

YOU MUST USE THIS FORM TO SUBMIT ADS. PLEASE ONLY USE THE SPACE PROVIDED.

Deadline for ads is Wednesday 5:00pm for the following week's issue. New ads will then run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information and details on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ads. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. NO ADS WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT VALID ADDRESS, PHONE# AND UNDERSTANDABLE TEXT. DO NOT ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAPER OR TEXT. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT ADS. THANK YOU FOR USING BARTALK. SELECT ONE GENDER AND ONE CATEGORY: SEEKING RELATIONSHIP_ SEEKING ADVENTURE__ COUPLES____ PARTING GLANCES____ NAME EVE PH# ADDRESS Write your headline here: __ (stop here) Write the rest of the ad here:

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Still only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

Bar Talk Personals

Still only 98¢ per minute to respond!

0-844-2

Available only in the Bay Area on touch-tone phones
You must be at least 18 y/o to call.

HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Genuine GWM - 5'8", 145#, 43, seeks tall genuine GWM who is honest, able to communicate & romantic. Looks unimportant. EXT 4315.

EXT 4315.

Rugged, Strong, Gentle Hearted
Prefer blue jeans & plaid shirts,
p/u trucks & motorcycles, & the
strong hold of another rugged,
butch man. I'm masculine, muscular, very handsome & romantic.
I'm also kind, honest, caring, wise,
creative, sprirtual, GWM, 27ylo,
br/br, 5'10', '170#, moustache, & a
bottom. You are 30-45, handsome,
blondish, light eyes, w/ facial hair,
lean & toned, strong yet gentle,
caring & romantic, a top, & NS;
thick moustache a plus. I'm a
great catch, you be too. Leave
description & phone #. Thanks.
EXT 4335.

Into Mature Gentlemen? - Tall GWM HIV-, smoker, gr/a, fr/p, looking for younger submissive, loyal GWM for social times & poss. LTR. EXT 4343.

Like to be Treated Like a Man? Like to be Treated Like a Man? If you're 18-35, sexy, goodlooking, cleancut, w/ facial hair, dominant tendencies, w/ pretty shiny cut dick ready to be serviced by Italian white boy. I'm 18, Latino, [nexperienced, homy, eager, poss. bottom, w/ bitch acting tendencies. Respond. EXT 4344.

Looking for Mr. Right? - Me: GWM 31, 5'6", 180#, br/br, secure, responsible, clean & sober, smok-er, bottom. You: GWM 5'10"+, top, horny, masculine, hairy, passion-ate, ND, loves to laugh. If this is you, what are you waiting for. EXT 4345.

Have a Bear Magazine Look -GWM 40, hairy, husky, balding, moustache. I'm 5'9', 195#, dark br hair. I'm looking for guy 20-30 w/ attractive boyish looks for poss. LTR. I enjoy bicycling, nature, sci-fi, films, & safe versatile sex. I'm HIV-, & have good sense of humor. EXT 4346.

Dynamic, Committed - Deep Love & Happiness. Sensitive, caring, mature, educated, disabled guy invites spiritual, caring, athletic, adventurous, young, warm guy w/ a big heart & high self esteem to enjoy deep loving committed monogamous LTR. EXT 4347.

Tall, Dark, & Handsome Latino -I'm 33, HIV+, 6'4", 190#, versatie, clean cut, professional, w/ toned body, looking for similar WMs under 40. NS, ND. EXT 4348.

Focus & Fit - Masculine Asian, 47, 5'9", 150#. Enjoy daily work-outs, arts, films, music, & safe hot sex. Available for a compatible, smooth, gym-toned, clean-shaven WM for male bonding & more EXT 4349.

Asian Seeks Asian - Deep, broad, smart & intuitive, sincere & honest Asian, 30ylo, 5'10', 160#, slim build, & go to gym, seek smooth body & sincere Asian for friend & more. EXT 4350.

More Than Just Meat & Color More Than Just Meat & Color - I'm human. I'm a 25y/6 Black male, intelligent, cultured, attractive, nice body & realistic. Seek yot os 3c in better than average kape & sincere. I'd love to meet a special guy for roadrips & to just fall asleep laughing at TV. Equal opportunity employer - smile. EXT 4351.

Comfortable To Be With Comfortable 10 Be With Honest, unprelentious, romantic GWM, 6'2". 170#, br/bl, 40s, strong & silm. Would like to find an in-shape buddy under 45 to share the following: neighborhood walks, home cooked meals, kissing, snuggling, massages, other adventures. Sincere only, please. EXT 4352.

Blonde Seeks Blonde - 40, goodlooking man, 29 waist, smooth, defined, seeks HIV- top for dating. EXT 4353.

Seeking Friendship & Maybe More - Attractive Latino, 29, seeks GWM 25-35. Me: 5'6", 145#, dark hair, clean shaven, smooth body, professional. You: versatile, sincere, enjoy music, outdoors, NS, professional. EXT 4354 4354

GWM Seeks GLM/GBM -Attractive GWM looking for GLM/GBM for dating. Me: 31y/o, 51'0", 163f, br/bl, moustache, workout, stable. You: versatile, enjoy music, dancing, NS, in-shape, stable. Call me for a date. I'm ready & waiting. EXT 4355.

Seeking Smart Sensuous Cynic

- Mature, athletic, classical, bl/bl,
seeks complementary partner,
preferably introspective, critical,
nonflamboyant & w/ some
leather/lev/ fixation. Race & age
irrelevant if sensibilities match.
EXT 4356.

Relationship Sought by GAM - I'm a college student, 24ylo, 5'7", 130#, clean, cute & stable. Looking for GWM bottom, 20-25, under 6", ht/wt proportionate who is intelligent & educated for poss. LTR. I enjoy travel, dining out & spending time at home. Must be HIV- & ND. EXT 4357.

Cute Latino Guy - New to SF would like to meet Latins or Caucasians 24-39 for friendship, maybe more. You: attractive, outgoing, independent, honest, sincere. Me: 23, 57", 180,#. No tatoos, HIV+, ok. EXT 4373.

Good Prospect, Good Future -We need dates for romance lead-ing to LTR. We're sweet, sensue, sexy, sensitive, UB SF top GWM, clean shaven, healthy (HIV+ ok). Quality GWM bottom, early 50s, 5'11", 225#, wants you. Be younger than I w/ elan & panache. EXT 4374.

GWM Seeks GWM 4 Friend/LTR - Me: 30, 6'2", muscular, hand-special period, intelligent, versatile, canning. Like movies, dinner, darcing, jazz clubs, quiet times & passionate evenings. UB similar, 30-39, If UR interested, give me a call. EXT 4376.

Oral Slave for Hi-Energy Man - I love serving friendly aggressive domination. Unattached seeks same for steady sexual relationship. Passionate expert WM, 48, 5°8", 160%, workout body, bald, beard. Seriously healthy HIV+. Mobile Oaklander, quick to city. EXT 4377.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Feminine Woman Seeks Same -Bi curious 21 y/o blonde woman seeks Bi curious feminine, 18-24 y/o caucasian woman for first encounter. EXT 4257.

SEEKING **ADVENTURE**

M-M

Balding, Overweight, Mature -Plain-looking, East Bay Black top man would none-the-less enjoy short, hot sessions w/ healthy mature, non-bearded, masculine bottoms. Tall, husky, experienced bottoms preferred. Calls returned

very early weekday a.m. EXT

Horny Cocksucking Sleaze Hound - Party man, insatiable Hound - Party man, insatiable appetite for sleaze buddies w big cocks, discreet 1 on 1 or small groups for hot party action in erotic play space. Hungry to service WM 30-50 goodlookin mascu. ic play space. Hungry to service WM, 30-50, goodlookin, masculine, in-shape body, sex hungry men, adventurous w/ active sexual imagination. Call for detailed description. EXT 4253.

East Bay Late Nights - Do you like dirly talk but are tired of phone sex? Like j/o but only meet suck/fuck types? Like buddy to buddy fun but meet tops or bottoms? Do you drink & smoke but meet clean living types? Then let's party (share 50/50), my place, 10-11pm. No video or shaved cocks. EXT 4254.

Asian Seeking GWM - Sexy young Asian, very attractive, 28, 510°, 156#, nice body. Looking for GWM, 18-38, HIV-, hung big, fit, for sex & friendship. If interested please leave message & I'll get back w/ you. EXT 4255.

Love Thin Asians - Handsome, in-shape, professional GWM loves very thin Asians. I'm 52 (look much younger), Jewish, 5'9', 175#. N/S, N/D, HIV-, workout regularly. I'm looking for fun opss. LTR w/ very thin Asian guy (age unimportant). EXT 4256.

Hot Black Dad 21-37 Wanted By hungry, tall, very cute, White boy, 31. You: pull my hair, slap & fuck my face & ass, give me your cum as many times as you like. UB tall, very hot, mean, Black & horny. EXT 4279.

Hung Big - Hot, 6', 155#, 34, goodlooking all-American collegiate type, w/ gym toned body, hung big, seeks other goodlooking guys hung as big or bigger. EXT 4300 guys 4300.

Butt Massage - Hot Italian wants to worship & service your butt. Into shaving, electric massage, hot oil, spanking & butt licking. No FF. Dildos optional. EXT 4301.

Hot Muscled Expert Cocksucker
Visiting SFO, 12/15-19, seeks
hot young studs looking to get off,
I'm 6'2", 1954, goodlooking, inshape. You should be goodlooking, in-shape, smooth, under 27, &
into hot wild sex. If you're hot, I
won't disappoint. EXT 4302.

Visiting SF - My friend & I are going to be in the area 1st week of Jan. I want a good time w/a sexy man. I have never been & am willing to see it all. I'm adventurous. I also want to meet people for friendship, I plan to visit a lot. See ya. EXT 4303.

Hung Older E.Bay Black Man - Need expert 10 minute deep throat rod massages from mature, non-bearded experts only (test first) Please be free early weekday mornings (6am), late weekday afternoons. Direct contact phone #, no beeper, pagers, please. EXT 4304.

Chicken Feet & Beef Tripe – Sweet breads, sea urchin. GWM 48 seeks M/F, 30-60, gourned gournand for dinners in/out. I: witty, iconoclast, husky, hairy, handsome dacdy bear. You: have a brain, live in SF or have a car, passionate about food. N/S only pease. EXT 4305.

Hung Couple - Two goodlooking 34y/o GWMs, hung big (8+ & 9+), seek others for group action. Prefer in-shape & hung guys. Tops a plus. EXT 4306.

you're under 36, HIV-, & in shape, then let's hook up. EXT 4318.

The Hottest Guy In Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Proiect yourself & hose you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Looking for In-Shape Daddy
Bear - Very handsome, very
butch, very sexy, muscular, GWM,
Z7y/o bottom cub, smooth chest w/
moustache is seeking a handsome, butch, hairy, top daddy, 3045y/o. I'm honest, caring, gentle,
romantic, kind, down to earth, you
be too. Facial hair a must & ht./wt.
proportionate. Blondish w/ thick
stache & light eyes a plus. EXT
4334.

Musclehead Seeks Musclehead Musclehead seeks Musclehead

- GBM authentic bodybuilder
seeks GWM or Italian male BB for
safe times. I want a masculine
dude who digs a brother w/ muscles. Only real muscle need
respond. EXT 4359.

Hung Black Male 9" - Clean, uncut, 59ylo, HIV-, 170#, wants submissive deepthroated expercocksucker to suck cock & milk hot cum from my big balls. Erotic massage å turn on. Your looks unimportant. Sincere please. Older preferred. Leave name, #, & time to call. EXT 4360.

GWM Seeks Top Studs -Interested in guys 18-23 for great oral service. Must be well endowed GWM or GHM. Me: 5'9", 190#, average looks. Always in need. Br/hzl. EXT 4361.

Muscular & Healthy Aslan - 47, 5'7", swimmer's build, seeking a smooth, clean shaven, lean or muscular WM into hot, safe, sensual body exploration, oral & JO. EXT 4362.

Too Thin? - You are Asian. You think you are too thin, always trying to gain weight. Well, I'm just about crazy about really skinny Asians; any age. I'm also a very nice guy. Call for details. Are you free tomorrow night? EXT 4363.

Service Me - Hot Italian ex-foot-ball jock seeks oral servicing on a regular basis. Cum freaks wel-comed. Call for detailed descrip-tion. Long sessions preferred. EXT 4364.

Goodlooking Masculine Type -GWM 40, 6'1", 200#, not into bar scene. Genuine, compassionate & fun loving. Seeks similar good-looking masculine, nice guy. EXT 4365.

Horny, Healthy, HIV+ WM - ISO horny, healthy, Asian men for sexual excess. 38, 5'11", 165#, br/br, avg. looks/build. Into sensual-sexual fun from mild to wild, sweet to slutty. Love to kiss. EXT 4366.

GWM 52y/o - 5'2", 130#, HIV-, like my hairy ass massaged & lite-ly spanked. French worship my balls. I like giving head in 69, then fuck me slow till we both cum. My place in San Rafael. EXT 4367.

Got To Have It! Do You? - Top Got To Have It! Do You? - Top guy seeks devoter to being bound & lashed. I offer magic hands, warm heart & a scene where nothing else matters. No baggage, no sex. You: under 200#, toned, & expressive. Me: 40 WM, 180#, HIV+, good body & face. EXT 4379.

Very Hot - Butch, Blonde (flat-top), handlebar stache, 5'9", 140#, & crazy for cops & other butch types. I wear uniforms myself & look the type. Very uninhibited, disease free (you need not be), & dying for hot sex. EXT 4381.

FETISHES

East Bay J/O - Wanted masculine, hung guys for mostly j/o, dirfy talk, c/b worship, partying my place. Some oral ok, I receive, attention, Long scenes w/ hot butch buddy. No top/bottom guys. EXT 4258.

Vacuum Pumpers Rise Up -Need another GWM, BB, for play on my 46" pecs to enhance an engorging hour. Bring connector, valve, cylinder & camera. Hairy redhead, sundeck a+. Muscular only. EXT 4259.

Hairy Hot Footman - I'm a late 40s, young looking, HIV-, suburban footslave, I want to worship,

when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treat-ment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Lover of Barefeet Seeks Same - I'm sensually/sexually aroused looking at, kissing, smelling, licit, eng. caressing clean barefeet in reciprocation & JO. I love all-over body play Masc. gdling, GWM, 5'9', him, hirsute, HIV., N/A, N/D. LTR poss. E. Bay area preferred. EXT 4369.

Toilet Top - Demands total service. Seeks obedient bottoms, may train novices. Have rimseat. I'm 36, HIV-, 6'2", 205#, gymtoned. EXT 4370.

Exhibitionists Only - Let me video you jerking off, cum on your belly. Cockshots, no faces. All

Play Safe!

grovel, clean & crawl to nice feet only. I'm cut, hairy & sensual & submissive. Like conservative, sincere, E. bay masters. EXT 4280.

Clean - WMs w/ big smooth feet & cut meat, 50s GWM w/ hot mouth & tongue is waiting for you. E. Bay. EXT 4281.

Spankings Given - Old fash-ioned spankings, paddlings & belt-ings given to bad boys under 25. EXT 4282.

Dark Socks Turn Me On - Cute GWM loves to slip off a guys shoes after a long day at work & put mit face up against the soles & inhale the hot sexy aroma. Work the feet w/ my mouth, kissing, licking, & sucking socked feet thoroughly, especially lose, till he gets off. It feels great EXT 4283.

Teddybear Dad Needs Bottom Son - Ass massage & lite spanking will stimulate nerve endings you never knew you had. Me: attractive GWM 44, 6'5', 280#, football players build. You: attractive GWM 18-35, slim, smooth to moderate body hair w/ great buns. You need it bad. EXT 4284.

Plugfuck a Queer's Deepthroat -Plugfuck a Queer's Deepthroat -Hot, 6;2", 195#, cocksucker begs for Black, Latino, white facefuckers into deepthroat heavy duty suc-tion. Turn ons: verbal abuse, glo-ryholes, exhibs, 3-ways, smoke/aroma. Macho & massive meat only. EXT 4307.

Your Feet & More - GLM, 27, 510°, 160#, very handsome, is looking for affectionate guy W or L, with the proportionate, who would enjoy having his feet licked & massaged, passionately kissed, & more. No facial hair, masculine guys only. EXT 4309.

Bondage, Sensual Torture -Cleanliving masculine man, men-tally focussed, fit & strong, seeks similar for reciprocal conscious-ness expansion & ego annihilation, slow interactive, profound. No injuries, N/D. I'm tantric yogi WM, 48, 5'8", 155t, bald, beard, healthy HIV+. EXT 4310.

Pervert Slave Wanted - Looking for a nasty, perverted slave to do it all. In return, I will show you what true love is all about. Me: GWM 45, tall, masculine, & handsome. You: under 35. EXT 4319.

The Hottest Guy In Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom

ages, races, sizes, uncut a+. Private personal use only. EXT

Saddistic Daddy Type - A little overweight but handsome, offers live-in situation to big dicked naked boy who is relationship oriented & eager to serve. EXT 4368.

COUPLES

GWM Looking for Young Couple
- Hi, my name is Joseph. I'm HIV& fun to be wi, 51y/o, nice cock,
balls & ass. Ready for fun &
adventure. EXT 4311.

OTHER

Very Curious BIWM - Am interested in meeting others who are into making/watching erotic home videos. Also interested in trading videos. I have a large collection of hot good quality tapes. EXT 4261.

South Bay Workouts - BiWM, 40 seeks friends in South Bay for workouts at gym, bike rides, rollerblading, hiking, etc. EXT 4285.

German GM, 28 - Seeks mutu-ally beneficial marriage w/ American woman. EXT 4320.

Hot BiWM Wants Hot Female -This hot BiWM, 51, is very hot, & looking for a young woman. Would like to bathe you & care for you. I'll kiss you, & love you good. EXT 4312.

Looking for a Young Lesbian Couple - That is thinking of hav-ing children in the future. GW2 27, very handsome, responsible, caring, HIV-, would like to be a father some day. Leave a number & lef's talk about it, see if a friend-ship developes? EXT 4332.

Penis Enlargement - GWM wishes to talk to someone who has surgically had their penises enlarged. Safety, results, costs, etc. Will call back discreetly. Thanks much. EXT 4333.

American/Dutch GWM Couple Seek American/European Lesbian couple who also need to exchange marriage. We are committed, couple who also need to exchange marriage. We are committed, responsible, very goodlooking, caring, NS, 27/39. Absolutely no strings attached, looking to obtain work permits. EXT 4336.

Still only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

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BAY AREA REPORTER—December 15, 1994—PAGE 51

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to: This Week Bay Area Reporter 395 9th Street San Francisco, CA 94103 Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.



The Amen Corner

James Baldwin's portrait of a storefront Harlem church, extended run. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 4pm thru 12/18. \$18-22. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter St. **474-8800**.

The America Play

Tony Kelly directs Suzan-Lori Parks' play, people dig-ging their way out of some-one else's history. Wed.-Sun. thru 12/18. 8pm., \$12-16. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St. **621-7797**.

American Buffalo

American Burraio
The Network Theatre
Company production of
David Mamet's drama.
Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at
3pm thru 12/18. \$12.
Climate Theatre, 252 9th St.
626-9196.

Animal's Savage Christmas

A "viral celebration with music" by Animal Joe Smith and The Animal Ensemble. \$8-12. Fri. & Sat. at 7:30pm. The Lennon Studios, 271 Dore Alley. 561-1441.

Artists Gallery
Paintings, prints and paper
works by Frank Pietronigro,
thru 12/31. Fri.-Sun., 125pm. 4076 19th St. 626-2070

Carlo D'Amore and Colman Domingo suck face. Last performance of Twelfth Night at Theatre Rhino,

The Caucasian Chalk Circle

Brecht's epic play. Tues. Sun. thru 12/18. \$25-34. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley. (510) 845-4700.

Christmas with

Christmas with the Crawfords
Artfull Circle Theatre presents Xmas Eve at home with Hollywood's most famous dysfunctional family. Miss X, Connie Champagne and others. Thurs. 8:30pm, Fri. & Sat. 8:30 & 10pm Hru 1/7. \$15. The 450 Geary Theatre, 450 Geary. 626-5455.

New pop art by Craig Goodman, Charles Linder, Jason Mercer, Jim Schatz, Jim Winters. Thurs.-Sat. thru 12/17. Kiki, 483 14th St. 863-KIKI.

Gay Comedy Night Marilyn Pittman, Darrick Richardson, Suzy Berger. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933**.

Harvard/Radcliffe

SF gay and lesbian alumni holiday party. \$5. 8pm. Info: **864-1070**.

The Joy of Gay Sex

A new musical comedy by John Fisher. \$12. Thurs.-Sun. thru 12/31. Studio at Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Kiki & Herb

Justin Bond and Kenny Mellman bring their lounge act back to the Sky Room, Fri. & Sat. in Dec. \$12. 11pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th St. 863-4177's

J2M Productions presents the farce by Joe Orton. \$13-15. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm., thru 12/17. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. **863-7576**.

Lypsinka! As I Lay

Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933**.

Holly Near

Holly Near In her Annual Winter Song Concert, Holly sings Gershwin, Rogers and Hammerstein. \$15. 9pm. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St. 885-0750.

Nutcracker

Oakland Ballet's production features Dance Theatre of Harlem Principal Dancer Judy Tyrus. Thru 12/24; call for times. \$5-35. 7pm. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 465-6400.

Our Gay Apparel
The SF Gay Men's
Chorus's annual holiday
concerts, \$10-30. Fin. & Sat.
at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm.
Center for the Arts Theatre,
701 Mission St. 978-ARTS.

The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie

The Dance Brigade presents its multiculti, multi-generational dance/ theatre extravaganza. \$16. Fri. at 8pm, Sat. & Sun. at 2 & 8pm. Scottish Rite Theater, 1547 Lakeside Dr., Oakland. (510) 652-0752

Rush Limbaugh

In Night School
Charlie Varon plays the chubby right-wing radio personality. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm. \$10-15. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. 641-0235

Scenes From

My Love Life
Nine gay men in search of intimacy: Ronnie Larsen's comedy extends its run.
\$15. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

Seasonal Help!

Brian Lohmann in comic character pieces that bask in the angst of the holiday season. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm. \$12. Bayfront Theater, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center. 641-0235.

The Texas Chainsaw Manicurist

Hit musical revue plays The New Conservatory Theatre, Thurs.-Sat. thru Dec. \$15 (2 for 1s available Thurs.) 8pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

Tree of Life Celebration

Memorial tree lighting, cocktails, buffet, fundraising event for Hospice by the Bay. \$25. 6pm. Forum, Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. **626-4900**.



A Chanticleer Christmas

Premier vocal ensemble concertizes, \$20-23. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm. St. Ignatius Church, Parker & Fulton Sts. 392-4400.

Reverend

Horton Heat
Plays with St. Vitus Dance
and Useless Playboys. \$12.
9pm. Bimbo's 365 Club,
1025 Columbus Ave.
474-0365.

Papel Picado

Heminia Albarran Romero demonstrates the decora-tive tradition of Mexican paper cutting. Sat. & Sun. 11am-4pm. \$8.50. Explor-atorium, 3601 Lyon St. 563-7337.

SF Hiking Club
Trip to Año Nuevo State
Reserve, elephant seal
breeding grounds. \$4 plus
parking & mileage per car.
Meet 9:15am under
Sefavius sinn Market & Safeway sign, Ma Church. 285-3760. Market &

Singing for AIDS

Singing for AIDS
Benefits Food For Thought,
Face To Face and Home
Hospice. Dinner, 6pm.
Christmas Chorale concert,
8pm. \$25. Ziggurat, 16135
Main St., Guerneville.

does cast

Shakespeare, last performance. \$12-18. 8pm. Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. **861-5079**.

A Winter Concert

The Golden Gate Men's Chorus and Slavyanka pre-sent a holiday concert. \$10-12. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 6pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. 626-2883

Fifty Treasures/ Fifty Stories

SU

Mon.-Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm thru 1/22. Architects and Heroes Gallery/Salon, 2239 Fillmore St. **921-8383**.



Dan Burkholder

Photographer who works with digital imaging. Also: Debra Heimerdinger. Tues.-Sat., 10am-7pm thru 1/21. Vision North Gallery, 2300 Polk St. 474-4581.

work. Lawre Powell

A Ka Chris

Karen offered specia to com a cond Tom and I

Keith Haring

Exhibition of original art-



The Lady Who Stole Cable

Canble
Canned Ham Outlet
presents "the holiday
show with a body
count, a Christmas
tragedy." \$5-10.
8:30pm. Bernice
St. Playhouse,
21 Bernice St.
863-5946.

Under the Mistletoe

Asian AIDS Pro-ject's Rubber Club presents its Xmas cel-ebration, canned good drive. \$3. 9:30pm. 'N Touch, 1548 Polk St. 227-1594.



Gay Comedy

Open Mike
M.C. Scott Capurro.
Aspiring queer comics sign
up by phone. \$5. 8pm.
Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th
St. 861-7933.

Go To Hell!

An Enrique Christmas Special. Mondays in December. \$2. 9pm. Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market St. 861-5016.

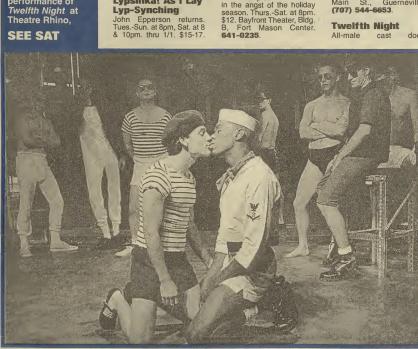
Mark Huckabay

Photographs: male rites of passage. Thru December. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes St. 864-7654.

Photo: David Maung

Synthesis

Recent work by Marque Cornblatt.





Turtle in Church by Dan Burkholder at Vision North Gallery, **SEE TUES**

work. Thru Jan. Martin Lawrence Gallery, 465 Powell St. **956-0345**.

Karen Carpenter Christmas

Karen Carpenter has been offered her very own Xmas special, but she has to come up with a concept. By Tom Ross and Morey

Goldstein. \$12-14. Tues.-Wed. at 8:30, Thurs.-Sat. and 12/26-30 at 8pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. **541-0235**.

Nutcracker

San Francisco Ballet's production runs thru 12/31, call for times. \$7-75. 7:30pm. War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Ave. 776-1999.

Tatiana Sarbinska

Bulgarian vocal soloist in concert with Kitka, the Bay Area's premier Balkan cho-rus. \$15. 8pm. Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. **(510) 839-4550**



Delirium

New work by David Collins, Adam Savage, Antonio Sindorf, others. Wed.-Fri, 12-4pm thru 1/7. Opts Art, 250 4th St. **546-7844**.

Gay Skate

Rink full of queers on roller-skates. \$5 includes skates rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium Roller Rink, 363 North Amphlett, San Mateo. Info: 96-SKATE.

Messiah

Messiah
American Bach Soloists
present Handel's masterwork. \$16-30. 7:30pm.
Calvary Presbyterian
C h u r c h,
Jackson &
Fillmore.
435-5235.

Christ-Carol

Noh

Theatre of Yugen's adaptaadaptation of
Dickens'
holiday
fable.
Wed.Sat.
thru
12/23.
\$1215. 8pm. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St. **621-7978**.

Rhonnie Washington in Suzan Lori-

Parks's *The America Play* at
Theater Artaud,

SEE FRI

Rosencrantz

Are Dead

Bingo!

Jump Cuts

and Guildenstern

Are Dead A.C.T.'s production of Tom Stoppard's Hamlet satire opens. Tues.-Sat. at 8pm, Wed. & Sat. at 2pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 2/5. \$13-39. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason St. 749-2ACT.

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. 241-0425.

New Pickle Circus's holiday show, directed by Tandy Beal Wed.-Sun. thru 1/1. \$18-22. 7:30pm. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center, Laguna at Buchanan St. 392-4400.

Photography by Chip Hroncich, thru 12/31 at Castro Station, 456 Castro.

Dat Burns' one-man play of an English boy who braves the dangers of the Australian bush. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 12/31. \$15. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. **861-8972**.

Men and Other

Fun Stuff

The Nowhere

Created by George Coates, music by Marc Ream, a mix of theatre, jazz, opera, magic and data rock. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 8 & 7pm thru 1/15, \$14-34, George Coates Performance Works, 110 McAllister St. 863-4130.

Old Glory,

Old Glory, New Story
"Flagging the 21st Century," an exhibition of American flags redesigned by 75 artists. Tues.-Sat. 12-6pm thru 2/4. Capp Street Project, 525 2nd St. 495-7101.

Open Lesbian and Gay Reading

Authors of both poetry and prose are invited to share their work. 7:30pm. Modern Times, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

with Marlene

One-woman musi-cal tribute to the legendary Dietrich, starring Torill,

extended run. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sat. & Sun. at 2pm. thru 12/31. \$25-29. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason St.

Sax-Serge

Sax-Serge
Interface
Andrew Voight (sax), Ed
Herrmann (serge), Roberto
de Haven (woodwinds) in
collaborative works. \$5.
8pm. Luggage Store
Gallery, 1007 Market St.
255-5971.

Women Who

Women with Stand Up
Women stand-up comics, straight and gay.
Traight and gay.
Stand Alley Club, 1190
Folsom St. 972-8047.

Krissy Keefer in The Dance Brigade's *The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie* at Scottish Rite Theater, Oakland,

SEE FRI

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*Herb Crusted Salmon...Risotto *Pork Roast "Fruit & Nuts* *Lamb Rack Leek Marmalade

Creme Brulee Berries
from \$29.50 per person



Duck & Apple Tart
*Onion Soup ...*Port Wine*
Prawn & Lentil Salad

droice of entree:

Veal Rib Chop

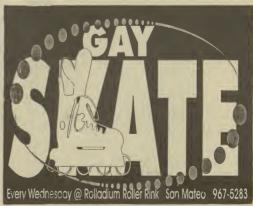
Chicken Medallions.Herbs

Lobster Stuffed...Crab

Holiday Cakes & Sweets from \$39.50 per person

Oppenheimer Restaurant

Dinner & Cocktails: Tues-Sat (415) 563-0444

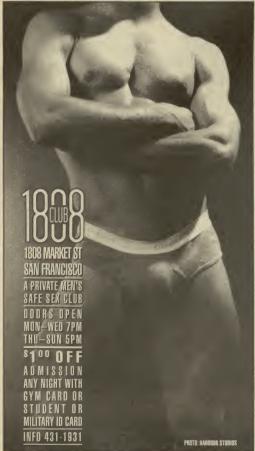


BAY AREA REPORTER—December 15, 1994—PAGE 53









BAY AREA REPORTER

MR. MARCUS



At last! An official photo of Mr. and Ms. International Leather Association Don Bastian of Calgary and Mary Dante of Toronto, chosen last October at Living in Leather in Toronto.

Only 10 Shopping Days 'Til Christmas

is the season all right, cold weather and all. Nevertheless, San Francisco didn't let all. Nevertheless, San Francisco didn't let cold weather dampen its spirits as the holiday season got into high gear last week. Parties, parties everywhere. Last Saturday night, the normally placid demeanor of lower Pacific Heights was shattered by an invading horde of leather/latex/uniform/bikers and club men who trooped to the home of Tom Hamilton and Jim Languet for Yuletide imbibing, gobbling and dish. Lushly decorated, the apartment was jammed to the rafters with Christmas decorations and lots of holiday cheer. Afterwards everyone fled to SOMA

holiday cheer. Afterwards everyone fled to SOMA for more adventure(s). The invitation didn't say there would be a flogging demo, but as I write this, some exhibitionist queen is wandering around town with a butt so red even Santa's outfit pales by comparison. In other areas, booze and babble, not to mention gourmet delights, graced the tables of

hosts and hostesses all over town.

hosts and hostesses all over town.

The fundraising continued non-stop as well. Friday night, Leather Daddy Steve Gaynes organized the "Killer Dancing Pennies" for Every Penny Counts. The ensemble performed in subzero weather, those brave souls. Mike Lias, Omar Moseley and Brad Cavalier stripped to near nothing; they placed big red plastic cups in their jock straps and the daring tossed (or tried to toss) penies into them for drinks donated from bars all over town. The weather being what it was, there was lots of room in those jocks for the cups and the copper coins. You know what that's like, I'm sure!

In San Jose, big crowds materialized for the Leatherfest, which started on Thursday at Greg's Ballroom; Friday, delegates to the event mejudges and contestants (three men, three women) and the principals in the contest at a meet & greet

and the principals in the contest at a meet & greet at Renegades. Gabrielle Antolovich and Jeffrey



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Jim Languet (L) and Tom Hamilton hosted a knockout leather Christmas party last Saturday night in their Pacific Heights digs. It was leather, leather everywhere!



Leather Daddy Steve Gaynes organized the "Killer Dancing Pennies" at the SF-Eagle last Friday night for the "Every Penny Counts" benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Tucker tried to instill a sense of Leather/SM with a "tast-

ing" on Saturday morning and in the afternoon only a small crowd showed up for the competition.

Judges Frank Nowicki, D. Rhodes, outgoing Mr. SJ Leather Rod Blair, and Ms. SF Leather Diana Hardick put the aspirants through the paces of pre-judging. When all the scores were counted, Kevin Roche won the Mr. SJ Leather title and Pat Baillie was named Ms.

Leather title and Pat Baillie was named Ms. Leathermasters.

Those "dogs in the manger" who own the Ms. San Jose Leather title refuse to let the title be used for things other than their own selfish purposes. Lest anyone think I am besmirching the canines of the species, be advised that a dog in the manger alludes to the fact that the dog can't eat the hay, but won't let anyone else eat it either. Wheever owns the title Ms. San Jose Leather (or any.)

Whoever owns the title Ms. San Jose Leather (or any variation thereof) should be censured/run out of the

county. No wonder David Carranza is getting gray hair! Anyway, thanks Hope Nechuta and Rod Blair for a

good year. It was always such a pleasure running into both of you at all the functions you attended. According to informed sources, the new sashees, Kevin and Pat, will do a good job. At the Victory Brunch on Sunday morning, plans for fundraising and other community projects were being discussed not just by the winners, but the other contestants as well. You see, everyone believes Jeff Tucker's slogan: Better Together. (Photos

next week!)

Apparently the weather was bad all over the state. In Apparently the weather was bad all over the state. In San Diego, the television sets I watched showed gray skies but an enthusiastic crowd at the sold out stadium for the tiff between the San Diego Chargers and the 49ers. By now you know the results (49ers 35-14), and with Dallas losing to Cleveland on Saturday afternoon, the playoff picture is looking better and better.

Dish 'Til You Drop

It's Official: Bear and Powerplay magazines have been sold and "Big Bear," one of SOMA's most colorful personalities is the new publisher. Not to be outdone by other publishers in the genre, "Big Bear" has hired Joseph Bean (former B.A.R. and Drummer writer, editor, Joseph Bean (former B.A.Ř. and Drummer writer, editor, former Mister S Leather manager, author/lecturer and renown leather personality) as the new editor. Joe "officially" began his new duties at the helm last Thursday, so if you're a subscriber, you can rest assured that top quality issues will be forthcoming.

Traveling leatherman Andy Rose was off to Florida most of last week and, wouldn't you know that old adage "While the cat's away, the mice/mouse will play" took on the visage of Andy's "alleged" other half Don, playing around with a leather bloke (Chris) from London. I ask, is this taking tea and "crumpets" to extremes? While Mr.

around with a leather bloke (Chris) from London. I ask, is this taking tea and "crumpets" to extremes? While Mr. Chris was departing on Monday for the U.K. in one terminal, Andy Rose was returning from Florida in another. Their paths did not cross, but in the background you could hear Don Tse and Omar Moseley Ho-Ho-Hoing all over SFO. And they weren't in Santa Claus drag either.

And speaking of that jolly old elf, a normally leather-clad member of our tribe has traded in his leather gear (temporarily) for a Santa Claus outfit, and even as you read this, he's sitting on a throne in a fairyland setting of a major department store in downtown SF listening to the bleating/requests of countless tykes. After his first week-

end on the job, he was overheard telling a friend: "Those

damned kids will make a bottom out of me yet!"

One can't help hearing rumors floating around, but I reiterate, there will be a Mr. Drummer Contest in 1995, so will the perpetrator(s) of rumors to the contrary get a life! Martijn Bakker, publisher, was in town last week and he assured me that the contest will go on.



The Jock Strap Coin Toss featured (L to R): Mr. SF Leather Mike Lias, Omar Moseley and Brad Cavalier at the Eagle last Friday night. This was part of the "Every Penny Counts" coin drive for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

MR. S LEATHER CO. Seventh Street, SF Last In-Store **Demonstration** of the Season Saturday at 2 PM

Dec. 17

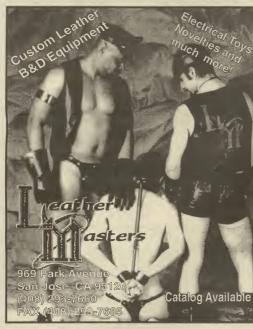
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PAGE 56-BAY AREA REPORTER-December 15, 1994

MR. MARCUS

Affairs to Remember

ittle has been disseminated about New Year's Eve activities thus far, but if you're in a traveling mood, there are still spaces left for the FF of A, Florida Gold Coast Chapter party from Dec. 30 to Jan. 2 in Fort Lauderdale. All the action will take place at the Club Caribbean (2851 North Federal Highway); the cost for the whole weekend is \$125. Contact Eric or Derek at P.O. Box 500, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33302 or call (305) 761-3961.

Thursday, Dec. 15
The Penny Drive continues amassing the world's biggest pile of coins in an attempt to make the Guinness Book of World Records at Justin Herman Plaza this afternoon. If you've not contributed already, get on down there and see the second string of the Killer Dancing Pennies — and by the way, bring your coins! Make Jack Murgia happy!

Friday, Dec. 16
Free and anonymous HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison from 2200 until half-past midnight in a joint effort by Blow Buddles and the AIDS Health Project.

Saturday, Dec. 17
The Ring's ongoing lecture series concludes tonight with "Creating Scene Space." You know location, rules and

cost.
Great Christmas Ball Auction and beer bust at the Hole in the Wall Saloon from 1500 to 1900. Handmade and antique Christmas ornaments will be auctioned. DMQ, the band, will perform, and if you bid high enough, they'll play a gig of your choosing. Lots of goodies for you here donated by Edge, Elephant Walk, Pasta II, Men's Room, Medium Rare Records, Cannabis Buyers Club, DMQ, McDonald's Pub and A Taste of Leather. For more info, call (415) 337-4386.

Full Moon Night at The Edge. Show your buns off, and as Edge manager Eric says, "Any asshole can enter." Show it all at 2000. Celebration of the life of Michel de la Roche, the main founder of MAST, on the Eagle patio, 1800-2000.

Bears of SF (BOSF) host Bears 'n' Toyland bear bust at the Lone Star Saloon today from 1500 to 1900 for \$5. Santa will visit from 1600 to 1800, so you can get photographed sitting on his face, er, lap!

Sunday, Dec. 18

Repeat Great Christmas Ball auction today at Night Shift – more of the same goings on as yesterday.

Pigs in Paradise (Golden Gate Peace Officers Association) host the beer bust at the Eagle today from 1500 to 1800, but they didn't bother to send any Info on it.

Rainbow MC Xmas Party at Hole in the Wall from 1500 to 1900 for \$6. The fabulous Lurch will play Santa with gifts for all who grace his lap.

Be at The Edge for the Sit on Santa party

grace his lap.

Be at The Edge for the Sit on Santa party from 1900 to 2300. Elves and reindeer make a cameo appearance, and the audience will be divided among good boys and girls and bad boys and girls.

Wednesday, Dec. 21
Golden Gate Guards beer bust at Night
Shift from 2000 to 2300 for \$6 (\$1 off with a
child's gift), door prizes, 50/50 raffle for the
AIDS Emergency Fund and Inter-Club
Fund.
Leather Buddies cether at 200 life.

Leather Buddies gather at 933 Harrison tonight. You know the rules: no cologne (you will be sniffed!), Wear boots (mandatory) and leather; they mean business!

Thursday, Dec. 22
Annual Xmas party for their loyal customers at the SF-Eagle tonight at 2000. If you've been before, you know what to expect. ▼

MUSIC

Remember Dusty Springfield, ABBA?

More Glamorous Sounds

by Jeffery Kennedy

I received such an enthusiastic response to last week's "Sounds of Glamour" article that I thought I'd use up more precious space this week trum-peting wonderful names from the past. The two albums below would make great Xmas gifts for those hard-to-buy-for nostalgia buffs

Dusty Springfield "The Legend of Dusty Springfield" Philips, four compact discs, British import

In a nutshell, Dusty Springfield is the best female singer England ever produced. Known in the States for her '60s hits "1 Only Want To Be With You" and "You Don't Have To Say You Love Me," she is a queer mega-icon overseas, loved as much for her beehive loved as much for her beehive hairdos as for her soulful pipes and soap-opera life. (Writer Lucy O'Brien outed Dusty in her 1989 biography of the singer). Dusty is an extremely versatile vocalist, equally comfortable with dramatic ballads, mod binspakers backwoods mod hipshakers, backwoods soul and techno-laden disco. emotionally-drenched delivery thrills in any setting.

The four CDs in this collection are thematically arranged. "Hits and Bits" includes all of her successful singles, including 1968's "Son of a Preacher Man." "The Look of Love" showcases Dusty at her best, singing sad love songs over melodramatic orchestration. singing sad love songs over melodramatic orchestration. "Downright Dusty" leans to the soul side, while "Pearls and Rarities" includes a few previ-ously unreleased tracks, rare foreign language versions, and a homemade 1953 recording. The stodgy design of the CD pack-age and the tiny black-and-white booklet don't do Dusty justice, but this is the most thoughtfully-arranged of all the Dusty compilations currently circulating.

ABBA "Thank You For the Music" Polydor, four compact discs, British import

Swedish pop supergroup ABBA broke up in 1982, yet their legacy lives on (and on and on). ABBA is aural bliss, where pop music transcends and assumes a universal appeal generally associated with the classics. Throw in a bit of '70s retro kitsch and an extraordinary diva quotient and you've got queer



The first three CDs of this set include every single ABBA released during their ten-year career, along with non-album B-Sides and choice album cuts. The fourth CD includes previously unreleased tracks, rare early songs, odd foreign language versions, and a long "ABBA Undeleted" medley of studio chatter and various unfinished numbers. The previously unreleased "Put On Your White Sombrero," "Dreamworld" and "Rikky Rock 'n' Roller" are strong, addictive, joyful tunes. "Just Like That," a smooth, rich, saxophone-coated confection from 1982, is glorious. The colorful booklet, which is full of unusual photographs (including a visual essay on ABBA fash-The fourth CD includes previa visual essay on ABBA fashions) and extensive liner notes, comes wrapped in a smartly designed package. ▼

The Best of Romanovsky & Phillips

Melodic Surprise

by Brandon Judell

t's 9:30 a.m. in Summerville, a small town outside Charleston, South Carolina. The BRAVE BOYS packed with exhausted Christian heterosexuals ecovering from a night of d a n c i n g.

They're stumbling about,

readying themselves for a wedding. Quietly I've slipped the new CD Brave Boys: The Best & More of Romanovsky & Phillips on the player. Now, without them realizing it, they're bopping to the song "Ho Ho Homophobia":

"It happens every day
No matter what they say
It's just because you're gay Homophobia"

A few minutes later they're singing along with "Don't Use Your Penis (For a Brain)":

"Don't use your penis for a brain Hard as it maybe you really must

'Cause it's just a manly treasure So don't try to use your penis for a

Then these ex-Marines and sailors are guffawing to "Give Me A Homosexual":

'Give me a homosexual One who's perfected his oral tech-

nique
I like a man who's had practice
Give me a guy who is fluent in
Greek!"

Sadly, my straight friends appear to know as much about Romanovsky & Phillips as my gay friends, or, in other words, nothing at all. But, despite R&P's lack of international renown,

this this singing duo, which describes itself as "more butch than Pauly Shore, more femme than Paula Pound-stone," has per-formed together for 15 years and produced four records that have sold more 65,000 copies

Music was gig. In fact, when they first teamed up, back in '82, they

ROMANOVSKY & PHILLIPS were a comedy team doing stand-up at the now-defunct Valencia Rose. When they turned to music, the early reviews were great. Some even called them the "Gay Simon and Garfunkel.

Garfunkel."

Why this twosome is not more popular probably has something to do with our gay aversion to items not embraced by the establishment. Many would deny that such an aversion exists, but shortly before he died, Vito Russo asked an audience of homosexuals if they'd seen Longtime Companion. Only a few hands went up. But when he asked how many had seen the latest Schwarzenegger flick, nearly half the audience raised its hands. Happily, our patterns of behavior are changing, but not quite fast enough. I mean how many of us read books by gay or lesbian authors? And no, Danielle Steele isn't a lesbian. Steele isn't a lesbian.

As for this "best of" LP, its 18 songs

are a joyous collection of tunes that freely cross genres with a kind of wild abandon, from polkas to tangos to rock to ballads. Some-times a voice is slightly flat or an arrangement underdone, but more often than not your ears are hit with a cle-ver, melodic surprise. John Bucchino's musical earners are the surprise. cal accompaniment is great. Especially lovely is the anthem "No False Hope" with back up vocals by Holly Near, Phranc and Alix Dobkin.



Photo: Irene Young

Romanovsky & Phillips

BOOK BRIEF

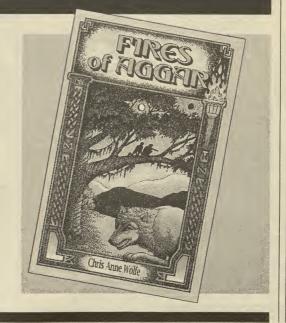
New from New Victoria

Fires of Aggar by Chris Anne Wolfe; New Victoria, \$10.95

Here's a gift to while away those long wet winter days—the sequel to Chris Anne Wolfe's science fiction/fantasy Shadows of Aggar—and let me assure you that Fires of Aggar is a worthy successor. Generations have passed since the action of the first novel, and the situation on Aggar is dire. Arms escalations, betrayal, wars, all combine to threat-en Aggar's pastoral existence. Into the looming disaster comes a Royal Marshal, Gwyn, with her fellow Amazons and a pair of sandwolves, to save the day. And some 280 pages later, after a series of fascinating adventures, they do

Wolfe does a fine job of creating a credible other world; her characters are richly detailed and filled with life. You don't need to have read the first novel to enjoy the sequel (it stands quite well on its own), but you'll want to for the sheer pleasure of so fine a reading experience. Fires of Aggar is a compelling read, one that will transport you to a fantastic

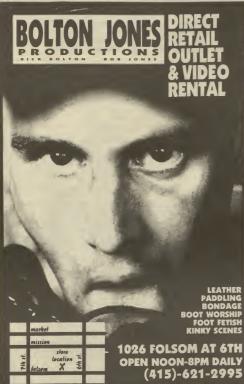
-by Deborah Peifer



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PRISONER

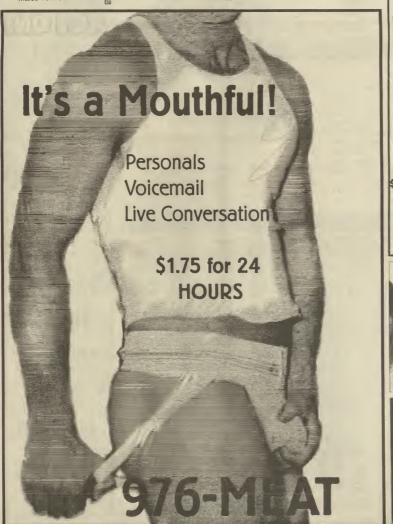
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HOTGUN

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bodybuilder Dave North gets his nuts stugged repeatedy.

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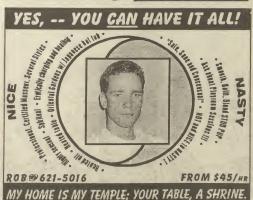
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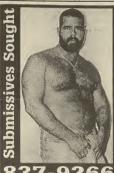
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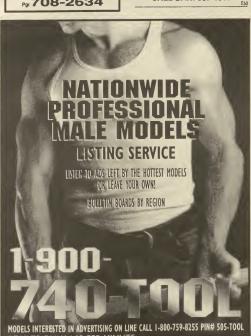
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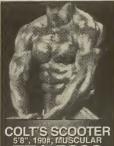
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